

WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1912,

INCLUDING A

Summary of the Annual Reports

OF THE

District Medical Officers of Health

AND OTHER RECORDS

BY

JOHN TUBB-THOMAS

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TROWBRIDGE :

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WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health, for the Year, 1912.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour of submitting to you my 15th Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Administrative County of Wilts, including a summary of the Annual Reports of the Medical Officers of Health of the various Urban and Rural Districts within the Administrative County.

The form of the Report is the same as that of last year, and of the 32 Reports presented by the District Medical Officers, all were printed with the exception of that for the Pewsey Rural District, which was typed by the Clerk to the District Council.

The following changes occurred amongst the Sanitary Officials in the County, viz. :—

In the Urban Districts,—

Dr. Ferguson took the place of Dr. Campbell, deceased, Calne District.

In the Rural Districts,—

Dr. Ferguson took the place of Dr. Campbell, deceased, Calne District.

Dr. Ashley for Tetbury District. (Appointment now made permanent).

Dr. Macdonald vice Dr. Flower, resigned, Warminster District.

Mr. C. Hancock appointed for the Warminster District to carry on house-to-house inspections and assist in the ordinary sanitary work.

Below I give a Table showing the date when each Report was received, and the moieties of salaries of Medical Officers of Health and Inspectors of Nuisances payable by the County Council :—

Urban Districts.	Area in Acres.	Population estimated to middle of year.	Moiety of Salary payable by County Council.			Date on which Report was received.	Printed or Otherwise.
			Medical Officer of Health.	Inspector of Nuisances			
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Bradford-on-Avon ..	1,990	4,500	20 0 0	40 0 0	7 May, 1913	...	printed
Calne ..	356	3,547	12 10 0	23 0 0	4 April, 1913	...	printed
Chippenham ..	361	5,357	12 10 0	30 0 0	13 March, 1913	...	printed
Devizes ..	906	6,762	50 0 0	35 0 0	2 April, 1913	...	printed
Malmesbury ..	178	2,638	10 0 0	30 0 0	2 April, 1913	...	printed
Marlborough ..	598	4,452	19 0 0	17 10 0	12 April, 1913	...	printed
Melksham ..	476	3,167	16 5 0	17 10 0	10 March, 1913	...	printed
Salisbury ..	1720	21,320	62 10 0	70 0 0	14 March, 1913	...	printed
Swindon ..	4,265	51,347	100 0 0	80 0 0	23 May, 1913	...	printed
Trowbridge ..	2,126	11,851	30 0 0	45 0 0	21 April, 1913	...	printed
Warminster ..	6,564	5,487	22 10 0	35 0 0	4 March, 1913	...	printed
Westbury ..	3,687	3,445	22 10 0	20 0 0	25 April, 1913	...	printed
Wilton ..	1,915	2,117	10 0 0	10 0 0	25 February, 1913...	...	printed
			387 15 0	453 0 0			
Rural Districts.							
Amesbury ..	63,454	11,253	25 0 0	25 0 0	17 April, 1913	...	printed
Bradford-on-Avon ..	16,684	5,337	27 10 0	30 0 0	21 April, 1913	...	printed
Calne ..	28,968	4,599	25 0 0	42 10 0	4 April, 1913	...	printed
Chippenham ..	58,605	18,279	56 0 0	67 10 0	17 March, 1913	...	printed
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	46,734	10,969	25 0 0	30 0 0	14 April, 1913	...	printed
Devizes ..	61,855	12,838	50 0 0	52 10 0	25 March, 1913	...	printed
High worth ..	49,721	15,227	50 0 0	70 0 0	9 June, 1913	...	printed
Malmesbury ..	58,356	9,315	50 0 0	50 0 0	2 April, 1913	...	printed
Marlborough ..	43,795	4,489	30 0 0	20 0 0	5 May, 1913	...	printed
Melksham ..	13,792	5,029	30 0 0	23 0 0	11 March, 1913	...	printed
Mere ..	32,309	5,169	15 0 0	25 0 0	14 April, 1913	...	printed
Pewsey ..	75,218	13,503	40 0 0	42 10 0	15 July, 1913	...	typed
Ramsbury ..	51,614	7,114	13 19 0	55 0 0	4 March, 1913	...	printed
Salisbury ..	56,990	10,216	40 0 0	65 0 0	7 March, 1913	...	printed
Tisbury ..	43,561	7,812	25 0 0	47 10 0	29 April, 1913	...	printed
Warminster ..	51,896	5,930	40 0 0	17 10 0	31 March, 1913	...	printed
Westbury and Whorwellsdown	27,846	6,631	32 10 0	37 10 0	24 February, 1913...	...	printed
Wilton ..	54,290	8,144	35 0 0	45 0 0	24 April, 1913	...	printed
Tetbury (Wilts Portion) ..	3,271	375	1 16 8	1 15 11	31 March, 1913	...	printed
			611 15 8	747 5 11			

No change was recorded during the year in the administration of the Public Health Act, the same districts as heretofore having whole-time officers.

I have again had occasion to complain of the delay in the receipt of some of the Annual Reports from the District Medical Officers, several of the reports not coming to hand until May or June. Further there has been considerable difficulty with regard to the Pewsey District, the Medical Officer of Health failed to present a report to his Council, and the Clerk of the Council and myself collaborated and made a report from the registers and papers in the possession of the Medical Officer.

The reports again varied in shape and character, and I would advocate the general adoption of a report in book form on octavo sized paper. The majority of the reports are of this character, and it is to be hoped that the rest of the Medical Officers will fall in with this suggestion.

AREA AND POPULATION.

During the year there was no change in the constitution of the districts within the Administrative County.

The Ancient or Geographical County of Wilts contains 879,943 acres, and the Administrative County 864,101 statute acres.

At the Census in 1891 the population of the County was 262,551, in 1901 it was 271,394, and in 1911, 286,822. The increase in the inter-censal period (1891-1901) was 3·4%, and for 1901-1911, 5·7%.

The population estimated for the year 1912 is 288,219 for the County as a whole, of which 125,990 belong to the Combined Urban Districts and 162,229 to the Combined Rural Districts.

The report on the Census is not yet complete, but several volumes have been issued during the year.

In my Report for 1911 I published a table showing the population in every district in the County, and I am now able to give the following interesting table showing the population at the different age periods in the Combined Urban and Rural Districts:—

Table Showing Population at Various Ages in the Administrative County of Wiltshire, and in the Combined Urban and Rural Districts.

AGES.	ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.			TOTAL OF URBAN DISTRICTS.			TOTAL OF RURAL DISTRICTS.		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
All Ages ...	286822	143137	143685	125100	60078	65022	161722	83059	78663
Under 1 year	5678	2851	2827	2424	1220	1204	3254	1631	1623
1 and under 2	5578	2796	2782	2349	1213	1136	3229	1583	1646
2 „ 3	5972	3053	2919	2516	1291	1225	3456	1762	1694
3 „ 4	5985	3008	2977	2552	1257	1295	3433	1751	1682
4 „ 5	5917	3087	2830	2508	1311	1197	3409	1776	1633
5 „ 6	5828	2904	2924	2421	1223	1193	3407	1681	1723
6 „ 7	5776	2877	2899	2519	1227	1292	3257	1650	1607
7 „ 8	5806	2954	2852	2492	1225	1267	3314	1729	1585
8 „ 9	5624	2728	2896	2425	1182	1243	3199	1543	1656
9 „ 10	5700	2862	2838	2410	1199	1211	3290	1633	1657
10 „ 11	5693	2790	2903	2418	1159	1259	3275	1631	1644
11 „ 12	5510	2747	2763	2392	1191	1201	3118	1556	1562
12 „ 13	5634	2887	2797	2457	1224	1233	3227	1633	1594
13 „ 14	5502	2726	2776	2347	1177	1170	3155	1549	1606
14 „ 15	5847	3053	2794	2649	1354	1295	3198	1699	1499
15 „ 16	5442	2930	2512	2547	1328	1219	2895	1302	1293
16 „ 17	5448	2953	2495	2687	1373	1314	2761	1580	1131
17 „ 18	5220	2816	2404	2429	1232	1197	2791	1584	1207
18 „ 19	5199	2869	2330	2411	1199	1212	2783	1670	1113
19 „ 20	5178	2938	2240	2262	1093	1169	2916	1845	1071
20 „ 21	5003	2769	2234	2134	1014	1120	2369	1755	1114
Under 5 years	29130	14795	14335	12349	6392	6057	16781	8503	8278
5 and under 10	28734	14325	14409	12267	6056	6211	16467	8269	8198
10 „ 15	28236	14203	14033	12263	6105	6158	15973	8098	7875
15 „ 20	26487	14506	11981	12336	6225	6111	14151	8281	5370
20 „ 25	23266	12168	11098	10194	4693	5501	13072	7475	5597
25 „ 30	22339	11179	11160	10098	4760	5338	12241	6419	5822
30 „ 35	20890	10316	10574	9547	4579	4968	11343	5737	5603
35 „ 40	19337	9532	9855	8934	4311	4623	10453	5221	5232
40 „ 45	17767	8736	9031	7993	3867	4126	9774	4869	4905
45 „ 50	16063	7826	8237	7097	3386	3711	8966	4440	4526
50 „ 55	13671	6614	7057	5954	2797	3157	7717	3317	3900
55 „ 60	11218	5363	5855	4784	2209	2575	6434	3154	3280
60 „ 65	9348	4465	4883	3779	1727	2052	5569	2738	2831
65 „ 70	8069	3761	4303	3073	1353	1715	4996	2403	2593
70 „ 75	5973	2662	3311	2169	860	1309	3304	1802	2002
75 „ 80	3562	1563	1999	1269	488	781	2293	1075	1218
80 „ 85	1830	779	1051	690	253	437	1140	523	614
85 „ 90	680	281	399	247	98	149	433	133	250
90 „ 95	150	56	94	45	12	33	105	44	61
95 „ 100	20	6	14	12	2	10	8	4	4
100 yrs. & upwards	2	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	1

It is interesting to note that Wilts does not contain the very excessive proportion of aged persons that is generally supposed. The total number of persons over 60 years of age being 29,634, or roughly one-tenth of the total population. Of this number 11,284 reside in the Urban Districts, or 9·01 per cent. of the population of the Urban Districts, of which 6,486 were females and 4,798 males.

In the Rural Districts 18,350 persons were over 60 years of age, or 11·34 per cent. of the population of the Combined Rural Districts ; of this number 9,574 were females and 8,776 males.

There are 327 Civil Parishes in the County, the population of which are as follows :—Three with a population of 1 and under 50, 19 with 50 and under 100, 62 with 100 and under 200, 51 with 200 and under 300, 43 with 300 and under 400, 30 with 400 and under 500, 39 with 500 and under 750, 27 with 750 and under 1,000, 49 with 1,000 and under 5,000, 1 with 5,000 and under 10,000, 1 with 10,000 and under 20,000, and 2 with 20,000 and upwards.

The Eighth Volume of the Report on the Census of 1911 is now available, dealing with tenements and classifying the people by the size of the family of which they are members, and by the number of rooms in the occupation of that family. For Census purposes, a family is considered to be all the persons enumerated on a given schedule, and includes boarders, visitors, servants, etc. ; the number of families is therefore equivalent to the number of schedules collected. At each of the last three Censuses the schedule contained a question as to the number of rooms in the occupation of the family enumerated thereon, but in 1891 and 1901 the enquiry was confined to such families as occupied less than five rooms ; in 1911, however, *every* occupier was required to state the number of rooms in the occupation of his family, although only such schedules as related to private families have been tabulated. For the first time, too, a definition of the term “ room ” was attempted, the instruction on the schedule reading : “ Count the kitchen as a room, but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, nor warehouse, office, shop.” The limitation of the enquiry in 1891 and 1901 to tenements of less than five rooms and the absence of any definition of the word “ room ” must have led to some amount of understatement in those years of the families occupying tenements of four rooms or less, the former because in all cases where the enquiry was not answered it had to be assumed that the tenement consisted of more than four rooms and the latter because of the tendency, both in 1891 and 1901, “ to stretch the term ‘ room ’ to cover a landing, a lobby, a closet, or any other more or less distinct space within a building.”

A “ dwelling ” or “ tenement ” was defined in the instructions issued to the enumerators as “ a place in which any person entitled to receive a schedule usually lives.”

Table showing Tenements in the Occupation of Private Families, in the Administrative County of Wiltshire, and in the Urban and Rural Districts :—

WILTSHIRE.	No. of Rooms per Tenement.	Number of Persons in Private Families.															Total No. of Private Families.	Population in Private Families.
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15 and up- wards		
		Number of Private Families.																
Total Population :— 1901—271,394 1911—286,822																		
Total families or separate occupiers. private or other :— 1901—61,758 1911—66,603	1	248	55	21	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	333	460
	2	1226	865	404	227	93	37	14	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2872	5911
	3	1141	2629	2258	1724	1205	767	395	219	86	43	12	5	2	..	..	10486	36635
	4	822	3306	3625	3020	2204	1433	904	537	275	105	32	12	5	..	1	16281	64732
	5	408	2385	2975	3035	2290	1742	1098	652	412	194	76	32	8	3	1	15311	68076
	6	221	1749	2106	2095	1631	1116	731	438	259	138	78	34	10	..	..	10606	46996
Tenements with more than 2 occupants per room :— No., 1,503. Population, 12,504. Proportion per cent. to population in private families, 4·6.	7	65	534	734	694	546	379	278	118	80	50	24	10	5	2	1	3520	15718
	8	28	313	519	464	405	299	177	113	57	40	13	13	2	2	..	2445	11295
	9	15	119	217	278	247	165	100	61	43	11	6	7	1	..	..	1270	6089
	10 and up- wards	26	170	399	553	508	444	328	226	142	91	44	36	26	12	35	3040	17335
TOTALS	—	4200	12125	13258	12096	9132	6382	4025	2368	1356	672	285	149	59	19	38	66164	273247

TOTAL OF URBAN DISTRICTS.	1	151	27	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	180	211
Total Population :—	2	596	344	143	84	29	10	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1213	2304
1901—116,763	3	315	632	496	376	285	173	91	48	14	13	2	2	1	..	..	2448	8370
1911—125,100	4	278	1457	1733	1421	984	614	339	197	84	41	12	2	1	..	..	7163	27963
Total families or separate occupiers, private or other :—	5	168	1040	1350	1423	1062	782	453	289	167	87	35	13	3	1	..	6873	30442
1901—25,895	6	123	1094	1376	1393	1085	717	437	281	156	83	43	22	6	..	..	6816	30094
1911—29,310	7	29	266	391	354	268	178	139	49	44	27	9	6	1	1	..	1762	7787
Tenements with more than 2 occupants per room :—	8	10	133	226	189	182	132	78	49	23	19	6	7	..	1	..	1055	4911
No., 417; Pop'n, 3,604	9	7	49	96	101	125	84	37	18	15	5	2	3	..	..	..	542	2572
Prop'n per cent. to pop'n in private families, 3·0.	10	9	53	141	200	196	155	107	68	47	25	17	8	7	3	2	1038	5682
TOTALS	—	1686	5095	5954	5541	4216	2845	1687	1000	550	300	126	63	19	6	2	29090	120336
TOTAL OF RURAL DISTRICTS.	1	97	28	19	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	153	249
Total Population :—	2	630	521	261	143	64	27	8	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1659	3607
1901—154,631	3	826	1997	1762	1348	920	594	304	171	72	30	10	3	1	..	..	8038	28265
1911—161,722	4	544	1849	1892	1599	1220	819	565	340	191	64	20	10	4	..	1	9118	36769
Total families or separate occupiers, private or other :—	5	240	1345	1625	1612	1228	960	645	363	245	107	41	19	5	2	1	8438	37634
1901—35,863	6	98	655	730	702	546	399	294	157	103	55	35	12	4	..	..	3790	16902
1911—37,293	7	36	268	343	340	278	201	139	69	36	23	15	4	4	1	1	1758	7931
Tenements with more than 2 occupants per room :—	8	18	180	293	275	223	167	99	64	34	21	7	6	2	1	..	1390	6384
No., 1,086; Pop'n, 8,900;	9	8	70	121	177	122	81	63	43	28	6	4	4	1	..	..	728	3517
Prop'n per cent. to pop'n in private families, 5·8.	10	17	117	258	353	312	289	221	158	95	66	27	28	19	9	33	2002	11653
TOTALS	—	2514	7030	7304	6555	4916	3537	2338	1368	806	372	159	86	40	13	36	37074	152911

BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered in the County was 5,980, compared with 6,188 in 1911, or a decrease of 208. Two thousand five hundred and eighty Births were registered in the Urban Districts, against 2,612 in 1911, a decrease of 32, whereas in the Rural Districts 3,400 Births took place, compared with 3,576 in the previous year, a diminution of 176.

The Birth-rate corresponded to 20·74 per 1,000 of the estimated population; in the Urban Districts the rate was 20·47, and for the Combined Rural Districts 20·90. These rates are the lowest on record.

The following Table shows the average Birth-rates for the whole Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts per 1,000 of the estimated population for the years 1901–1911, together with (for the purpose of comparison) the corresponding rate for England and Wales, and for the large towns in England :—

DISTRICTS.	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Administrative County	24·93	24·40	24·91	25·05	24·49	25·15	25·16	24·67	23·44	22·19	21·57	20·74
Urban Districts	25·75	24·67	25·84	25·95	24·61	24·72	25·21	24·16	27·77	21·61	20·87	20·47
Rural Districts	24·35	24·20	24·24	24·37	24·39	25·50	25·12	25·09	23·99	22·64	22·10	20·90
England and Wales ..	28·5	28·5	28·4	27·9	27·2	27·0	26·3	26·5	25·6	24·8	24·4	23·8

It will be noted that the decline of the Birth-rate in Wilts between the years 1901 and 1912 was 4·19 per 1,000 of the population, and that of England and Wales for the same period was 4·7 per 1,000, which shows that although the Birth-rate of Wilts is lower than that of England and Wales our Birth-rate is declining more slowly than the national rate.

The following summary shows the Urban and Rural Districts arranged in the order of their Birth-rates :—

URBAN DISTRICTS.

Per 1000 of Estimated Population.				Per 1000 of Estimated Population.			
Swindon .. ..	..	..	23·72	Salisbury .. ..	..	..	18·43
Malmesbury .. ..	..	..	21·98	Calne .. ..	..	..	16·63
Devizes .. ..	..	..	21·59	Marlborough .. ..	..	..	15·48
Chippenham .. ..	..	..	19·78	Warminster .. ..	..	..	15·30
Bradford-on-Avon .. ..	..	..	19·33	Wilton .. ..	..	..	14·64
Trowbridge .. ..	..	..	18·81	Melksham .. ..	..	..	13·26
Westbury .. ..	..	..	18·57				

RURAL DISTRICTS.

Per 1000 of Estimated Population.				Per 1000 of Estimated Population.			
Amesbury .. ..	..	..	25·94	Chippenham .. ..	..	..	20·02
Wilton .. ..	..	..	23·57	Tisbury .. ..	..	..	19·71
Highworth .. ..	..	..	22·91	Malmesbury .. ..	..	..	19·21
Ramsbury .. ..	..	..	22·77	Devizes .. ..	..	..	19·08
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	22·05	Melksham .. ..	..	..	18·89
Calne .. ..	..	..	21·96	Mere .. ..	..	..	17·60
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett			21·60	Bradford-on-Avon .. ..	..	..	17·23
Westbury and Whorwellsdown			21·56	Tetbury .. ..	..	..	16·00
Pewsey .. ..	..	..	21·25	Warminster .. ..	..	..	15·85
Salisbury .. ..	..	..	21·14				

Of the various districts in the County only Amesbury, with its large military population, exceeded the uncorrected Birth-rate for England and Wales.

The method of calculating per 1,000 of the population does not seem to me to be the most satisfactory means of arriving at a birth-rate. In my opinion the birth-rate should be calculated per 1,000 of child-bearing women between the ages of 15 and 45 years. Unfortunately this information is only given in the Census Reports, and, therefore, only available every ten years. If the Census were taken at quinquennial periods more accurate information could be arrived at as to the probable cause of the continued decline in our birth-rate.

There were 63,699 females in the County of child-bearing age, and the number of births recorded was 5,980, thus giving us a birth-rate of 93·87 per 1,000 of females between the ages of 15–45. This rate is not available for England and Wales, but if it were I am convinced that this County would occupy a favourable position with regard to other counties where the uncorrected Birth-rate appears to be much higher.

Deducting the number of illegitimate births, the 5,753 legitimate births work out at the rate of 185·12 per 1,000 of married women of child-bearing age. The legitimate rate for the Urban Districts is 178·5, and the Rural rate 204·4 per 1,000. In the Amesbury Rural District the rate works out at 237·8 per 1,000 married women of 15–45 years of age.

Illegitimate Births.—The number of illegitimate births (exclusive of Still Births) registered in the County during the year was 227, of which 99 occurred in the Urban Districts and 128 in the Rural Districts. Calculated upon the number of single and widowed females between the ages of 15–45, viz., 32,623, the Illegitimate Birth-rate for the County is 6·95 per 1,000. In the Urban Districts there are 16,222 single and widowed females of child-bearing age, and the Illegitimacy Rate is 6·10 per 1,000. In the Rural Districts the number of females between these ages is 16,401, and the Illegitimacy Rate is 7·80 per 1,000.

Table Showing Condition as to Marriage in the Administrative County of Wiltshire, and in the Urban and Rural Districts.

	UNMARRIED.				MARRIED.				WIDOWED.			
	Persons	Males	Females	Females 15—45 years	Persons	Males	Females	Females 15—45 years	Persons	Males	Females	Females 15—45 years
Administrative County	164137	84716	79421	31714	107003	53209	53799	31076	15677	5212	10465	909
Urban Districts.												
Bradford-on-Avon...	2472	1150	1322	556	1756	863	893	490	273	72	201	19
Calne ...	1988	924	1064	432	1309	648	661	352	241	79	162	12
Chippenham ...	3020	1489	1531	701	2011	989	1022	631	301	90	211	23
Devizes ...	3897	1933	1964	872	2401	1200	1201	724	441	126	315	34
Malmesbury ...	1501	682	818	333	966	477	489	273	139	53	131	17
Marlborough ...	2855	1677	1178	617	1327	670	657	338	219	70	149	17
Melksham ...	1776	879	897	408	1167	579	588	377	158	46	112	7
Salisbury ...	12584	5464	7120	3535	7397	3649	3743	2223	1236	322	914	81
Swindon ...	28231	14636	13595	5063	20298	10085	10213	6610	2222	695	1527	177
Trowbridge...	6523	2899	3624	1675	4505	2191	2314	1294	787	203	579	47
Warminster ...	3246	1585	1661	765	1885	929	956	523	361	104	257	15
Westbury ...	1909	901	1005	470	1231	633	643	355	243	76	167	14
Wilton ...	1157	542	615	277	830	411	419	220	137	43	94	5
Rural Districts.												
Amesbury ...	7091	4745	2346	730	3616	1833	1733	1193	451	185	233	28
Bradford-on-Avon...	3061	1440	1621	695	1939	976	963	533	313	107	203	26
Calne ...	2545	1325	1220	435	1814	905	909	457	240	107	133	8
Chippenham ...	10337	5224	5113	1994	6920	3433	3487	1923	979	342	637	48
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett	6345	3323	3022	1076	4052	2011	2041	1143	605	212	393	32
Devizes ...	7425	3915	3510	1403	4677	2313	2364	1226	752	229	523	30
Highworth ...	8711	4689	4022	1287	5631	2814	2817	1672	797	312	485	44
Malmesbury ...	5388	2815	2573	1026	3414	1697	1717	899	559	218	341	25
Marlborough ...	2621	1437	1184	394	1627	807	820	455	248	88	160	10
Melksham ...	2832	1398	1434	565	1393	943	950	538	254	89	165	11
Mere ...	2936	1479	1457	572	1911	952	959	496	326	103	223	19
Pewsey ...	7896	4735	3161	1039	4743	2420	2328	1370	659	260	399	36
Ramsbury ...	4032	2162	1870	639	2652	1330	1322	692	425	156	269	16
Salisbury ...	5667	2901	2766	1069	3936	1963	1973	1054	575	221	354	33
Tisbury ...	4451	2265	2186	865	2894	1448	1446	788	453	148	310	31
Warminster ...	3219	1673	1541	637	2338	1165	1173	568	400	147	253	15
Westbury & Whorwellsdown	3652	1863	1789	703	2606	1287	1319	686	352	121	231	8
Wilton ...	4550	2459	2091	746	3070	1521	1549	835	459	175	284	20
Tetbury (Wilts Portion)	219	98	121	55	137	67	70	43	17	3	14	1

DEATHS.

The number of Deaths recorded during the year was 3,320, but this has to be corrected by the redistribution scheme of the Registrar-General, by which deaths are transferable to the districts to which they properly belong, and the nett number of deaths for the County was 3,297. In 1911 the nett number of deaths in the County was 3,539, so that for the year under review there were 242 fewer deaths registered. The natural increase of population, *i.e.*, excess of births over deaths, was 2,693, a slight increase over the previous year.

The nett Death-rate for the County was 11·42, compared with 12·33 in 1911, the Urban rate being 10·93 and the Combined Rural rate 11·82 per 1,000 of the population. There was great diversity in the death-rates, the range varying in the Urban Districts from 8·58 per 1,000 for Chippenham to Calne 16·06. In the Rural Districts the variation was 9·87 in Malmesbury District to 18·66 for Tetbury.

The Death-rate for the County and Combined Urban and Rural Districts was the lowest on record. The crude death-rate shows a decrease of 2·69 per 1,000 of the population compared with the year 1901 ; the rate for England and Wales for the same period shows a decrease of 3·9 per 1,000.

The following table gives the average Death-rate per 1,000 of the population for the County, the Combined Urban and Rural Districts, together with the corresponding rate for England and Wales, the rate for the smaller towns, and the Rural Districts of England and Wales :—

DISTRICTS.	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Ad'istrative County	14·12	14·64	13·37	14·36	14·01	14·05	14·01	13·30	13·23	11·73	12·33	11·43
Urban Districts ..	13·54	13·15	12·11	13·13	13·76	13·67	13·45	12·20	11·85	11·70	12·22	10·93
Rural Districts ..	14·53	15·73	14·31	15·28	14·22	14·36	14·58	14·20	14·35	11·76	12·41	11·82
England & Wales	16·9	16·2	15·4	16·2	15·2	15·4	15·0	14·7	14·5	13·4	14·6	13·0
Town Districts in England ..	18·6	17·4	16·3	17·2	15·7	15·9	15·4	14·9	14·7	13·4	14·4	12·6
Country Districts of England and Wales	15·7	15·3	14·8	15·3	14·9	15·1	14·7	14·7	14·5	13·8	13·1	11·9

The corrected Death-rate for Wiltshire and the Combined Urban and Rural Districts, *i.e.*, after allowing for differences of sex and age constitution of population based upon the population enumerated in 1911 are as follows :—

County of Wilts	10·1 per 1,000
Combined Urban Districts ..	10·32 „
Combined Rural Districts ..	9·95 „

This shows that the Death-rate for the County compares very favourably with that of England and Wales. The same remark applies in the comparison between the Combined Urban Districts and the 146 smaller towns in England, but the Combined Crude Rural rate is practically identical with that of Rural England and Wales.

I have arranged the Urban and Rural Districts in their order with respect to their Death-rates, and they stand as follows :—

URBAN DISTRICTS.

Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Per 1000 of Estimated Population.			
Chippenham .. ..	..	..	8·58	Warminster .. ..	..	..	12·02
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	8·76	Devizes .. ..	..	..	12·12
Melksham .. ..	..	..	9·47	Bradford-on-Avon .. ..	..	..	12·22
Salisbury .. ..	..	..	10·36	Trowbridge .. ..	..	..	12·74
Westbury .. ..	..	..	10·44	Wilton .. ..	..	..	13·22
Swindon .. ..	..	..	10·45	Calne .. ..	..	..	16·06
Malmesbury .. ..	..	..	11·37				

RURAL DISTRICTS.

Per 1000 of Estimated Population.				Per 1000 of Estimated Population.			
Malmesbury .. ..	..	..	9·87	Mere .. ..	..	..	12·38
Bradford-on-Avon ..	..	..	10·30	Marlborough ..	..	..	12·47
Calne .. ..	..	..	10·65	Devizes .. ..	..	..	12·61
Amesbury .. ..	..	..	10·75	Pewsey .. ..	..	..	12·66
Chippenham .. ..	..	..	10·88	Westbury and Whorwellsdown			12·66
Tisbury .. ..	..	..	10·88	Cricklade and Wootton Bassett			13·49
Melksham .. ..	..	..	11·13	Ramsbury .. ..	..	..	13·91
Highworth .. ..	..	..	11·16	Warminster .. ..	..	..	13·99
Wilton .. ..	..	..	11·54	Tetbury .. ..	..	..	18·66
Salisbury .. ..	..	..	12·13				

Thus it will be seen that Wilton and Calne in the Urban Districts, and Cricklade, Ramsbury, Warminster, and Tetbury exceed the Death-rate for England and Wales. Further comparison shows that in the Urban Districts Trowbridge, Wilton, and Calne exceed the rate for the smaller towns in England, whilst in the Rural Districts, Salisbury, Mere, Marlborough, Devizes, Pewsey, Westbury, Cricklade, Ramsbury, Warminster, and Tetbury exceed the mean rate for Rural England and Wales.

AGE MORTALITY.

In some cases the District Medical Officers show discrepancies between their Table I., giving Crude and Nett Deaths, etc., and Table III., showing the number of deaths at stated age periods. In the following tables I am compelled to use the figures given by the Medical Officers with regard to age distribution of deaths.

For purposes of comparison I have given the figures for the year under review and 1911. It will be seen that the percentage of the total deaths in the early part of life is on the down grade, whilst that at the older ages is on the up grade, thus showing a saving of life at early ages :—

COUNTY OF WILTS.

Age Period.		Number of Deaths.		Percentage of Total Deaths.	
		1911	1912	1911	1912
Deaths under 1 year	..	509	388	14·35	11·73
1 and under 2	..	89	83	2·50	2·51
2 and under 5	..	83	70	2·34	2·11
Under 5	..	681	541	19·19	16·36
5 and under 15	..	107	103	3·01	3·11
15 and under 25	..	137	94	3·75	2·84
25 and under 45	..	360	347	10·15	10·49
45 and under 65	..	719	696	20·24	21·05
65 and upwards	..	1542	1525	43·48	46·12
Deaths at all ages	..	3546	3306		

COMBINED URBAN DISTRICTS.

Age Period.		Number of Deaths.		Percentage of Total Deaths.	
		1911	1912	1911	1912
Deaths under 1 year	..	244	175	15.87	12.70
1 and under 2	..	42	45	2.73	3.26
2 and under 5	..	41	37	2.66	2.68
Under 5	..	327	257	21.27	18.66
5 and under 15	..	44	51	2.85	3.70
15 and under 25	..	63	46	4.09	3.34
25 and under 45	..	170	153	11.06	11.11
45 and under 65	..	339	310	22.05	22.51
65 and upwards	..	594	560	38.64	40.66
Deaths at all ages	..	1537	1377		

COMBINED RURAL DISTRICTS.

Age Period.		Number of Deaths.		Percentage of Total Deaths.	
		1911	1912	1911	1912
Deaths under 1 year	..	265	213	13.18	11.04
1 and under 2	..	47	38	2.33	1.96
2 and under 5	..	42	33	2.08	1.71
Under 5	..	354	284	17.61	14.72
5 and under 15	..	63	52	3.13	2.69
15 and under 25	..	74	48	3.68	2.48
25 and under 45	..	190	194	9.45	10.05
45 and under 65	..	380	386	18.90	20.01
65 and upwards	..	948	965	47.18	50.02
Deaths at all ages	..	2009	1929		

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

I am glad to be able to report a marked decrease in the number of deaths of infants under the age of one year, 385 deaths occurring compared with 510 in 1911.

Of the total number of deaths 76 occurred in the Urban and 89 in the Rural Districts. The number of births being greater in the Rural District, it naturally followed that in Wilts the rural areas are responsible for the larger number of infantile deaths. The most marked reductions this year took place in the towns of Salisbury, where 22 deaths occurred compared with 40 in 1911, Swindon 93 against 114, Trowbridge 15 against 27, and Warminster 3 against 14. The chief reductions in the Rural Districts are Bradford 4 against 14, Chippenham 16 against 38, Cricklade 12 against 20, and Warminster 2 against 12.

The Infantile Death-rate has fallen to 64.54 per 1,000 births registered, against 82.41 in the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1912 was 95 per 1,000 births.

This fall can in great part be attributed to the wet summer and consequent low temperature inhibiting bacterial life. Deaths from diarrhoeal diseases usually fluctuate with atmospheric temperature, and this was the case last year when only 5 deaths were recorded from these diseases, whereas in 1911, with its brilliant sunshine and heat, 42 deaths occurred.

The following tables show the various causes of death at stated age periods during the year :—

COMBINED URBAN DISTRICTS OF WILTSHIRE.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria: Croup .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Whooping Cough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	3	5
Diarrhœa, .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3
Enteritis .. ..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	..	1	6
Tuberculous Meningitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
Abdominal Tuberculosis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Congenital Malformations	4	1	1	..	6	2	..	..	..	8
Premature Birth	33	2	6	1	42	3	..	..	..	45
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	8	4	5	3	20	7	3	1	..	31
Atelectasis .. ..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Injury at Birth .. ..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Erysipelas	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	1	..	3
Syphilis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Convulsions	1	..	2	..	3	1	..	1	..	5
Gastritis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4
Laryngitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .. ..	..	1	..	..	1	3	4	3	2	13
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	..	1	..	3	5	3	9	2	22
Suffocation, overlying	1	..	1	..	2	1	1	..	..	4
Other Causes	4	1	1	..	6	4	..	1	1	12
Totals	54	11	19	4	88	29	20	21	17	175

COMBINED RURAL DISTRICTS OF WILTSHIRE.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Diphtheria: Croup .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough .. ..	..	..	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	12
Diarrhœa .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2
Enteritis .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	3	1	1	6
Tuberculous Meningitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Congenital Malformations	5	2	..	1	8	2	..	..	1	11
Premature Birth	46	3	2	1	52	1	..	..	..	53
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	10	5	4	3	22	9	3	1	1	36
Atelectasis	1	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	3
Injury at Birth	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Syphilis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3
Convulsions	2	3	..	1	6	3	3	3	3	18
Gastritis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	4
Laryngitis .. ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis	1	..	..	1	2	2	1	5	3	13
Pneumonia (all forms) .. ..	..	1	..	..	1	6	3	4	2	16
Suffocation, Overlying	2	..	..	..	2	3	1	..	..	6
Other Causes	5	2	1	1	9	2	1	1	..	13
Totals	75	16	9	11	111	36	21	23	19	210

It will be observed that the chief causes of Infantile Mortality are Premature Birth and Atrophy and Debility. Of the 385 infantile deaths in the County no less than 165 or 42.8 per cent. were attributable to these causes. The conditions giving rise to prematurity and debility at birth are to a very large extent preventable. They are due to ignorance on the part of the parents, to poverty entailing hard work during pregnancy, and to insanitary surroundings. The Notification of Births Act has not been adopted for the County, and no Health Visitors have been appointed to instruct expectant mothers in the hygiene of pregnancy and the care of children. With a reasonable expenditure in this direction I am convinced that our Infantile Mortality might be further reduced.

From the subjoined Table it will be observed that the rate for the County compares very favourably with that of England and Wales and Rural England and Wales :—

DISTRICTS.	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Administrative County	93.70	97.23	85.63	95.99	84.92	83.30	77.74	76.91	76.91	68.79	82.41	64.54
Urban Districts ..	106.8	93.63	89.27	100.32	94.61	86.44	81.45	91.07	75.29	77.06	93.41	67.82
Rural Districts..	83.8	99.89	82.76	92.52	77.19	80.09	74.03	65.11	76.08	62.43	74.38	62.05
England and Wales ..	151.0	133.0	132.0	146.0	128.0	133.0	118.0	121.0	109.0	106.0	130.0	95.0

A glance at this table readily reveals the enviable position held by Wilts—the County, Combined Urban, and Combined Rural rates being considerably below the average rate for England and Wales. Indeed, there is only one county in England and Wales that has a lower rate than Wilts.

The following shows the various districts arranged according to their Infantile Death-rates :—

URBAN DISTRICTS.

	Per 1000 Births.		Per 1000 Births.
Melksham	32.80	Westbury	62.50
Marlborough	28.98	Trowbridge	67.26
Malmesbury	34.48	Chippenham	75.47
Warminster	35.71	Swindon	76.35
Bradford-on-Avon	45.97	Wilton	96.77
Devizes	54.79	Calne	118.64
Salisbury	55.97		

RURAL DISTRICTS.

	Per 1000 Births.		Per 1000 Births.
Warminster	21.27	Salisbury	64.81
Malmesbury	22.34	Devizes	65.30
Mere	32.96	Highworth	68.76
Tetbury	33.33	Wilton	72.91
Tisbury	38.96	Westbury and Whorwellsdown ..	76.92
Bradford-on-Avon	43.47	Ramsbury	80.24
Chippenham	43.71	Marlborough	80.80
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett ..	50.63	Amesbury	82.19
Melksham	52.63	Pewsey	94.07
Calne	59.40		

From these rates it will be noted that Wilton and Calne Urban exceed the mean rate for England and Wales, but that all the Rural rates are lower.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Two hundred and one deaths were recorded from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, viz., 97 in the Urban and 104 in the Rural Districts. In 1911 the number of deaths was 229, viz., 122 in the Urban and 107 in the Rural Districts.

The death rate for Phthisis for the County was 0·69, for the Urban Districts 0·76, and for the Rural Districts 0·64 per 1,000 of the population.

The following table shows the Phthisis Death Rates per 1,000 of the population for the Administrative County, the combined Urban and Rural Districts, and for England and Wales since 1901.

AREAS.		1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Administrative County	No. of Deaths Rate per 1000	246 ·89	216 ·79	210 ·76	252 ·91	228 ·829	235 ·85	220 ·79	228 ·82	216 ·77	198 ·69	229 ·79	201 ·69
Combined Urban Districts	No. of Deaths Rate per 1000	95 ·81	95 ·82	92 ·79	121 1·02	107 ·88	109 ·90	122 ·99	125 1·00	90 ·71	99 ·79	122 ·97	97 ·76
Combined Rural Districts	No. of Deaths Rate per 1000	151 ·95	121 ·76	118 ·75	131 ·83	121 ·78	126 ·82	98 ·64	103 ·67	126 ·82	99 ·61	107 ·66	104 ·64
England & Wales	Rate per 1000	1·264	1·233	1·203	1·236	1·140	1·150	1·14	1·11	1·08	1·01	1·06	

The death rate from Phthisis Pulmonalis shows a reduction from that of 1911; the decrease being more marked in the Urban Districts, where 97 deaths were reported against 122 in the previous year. There was a decrease of 3 deaths in the Rural Districts.

Like the death rate for England and Wales our Phthisical Death Rate has been steadily declining since 1901. The Phthisis Death Rate shows a decrease of 0·10 for the County as a whole, 0·05 for the Combined Urban Districts, and 0·02 per 1,000 of the population for the Combined Rural Districts.

During the year 249 deaths occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and the other various forms of Tuberculosis in the county, giving a death rate from Tuberculosis of 0·86 per 1,000 compared with a rate of 1·01 for England and Wales in 1910.

The deaths from the various forms of tubercular disease accounted for 7·1 per cent. of the total number of deaths recorded in the County. There was a marked decrease in the number of deaths recorded from tubercular diseases, 124 being reported in the Urban Districts or a decrease of 20 over 1911, and 125 deaths in the Rural Districts, or a decrease of 31.

On the 15th July, 1912, the National Insurance Act came into operation, and the duties of Advisory Tuberculosis Officer were carried out by me. Arrangements were made immediately for the provision of beds in sanatoria, and I was fortunately able to secure beds in the newly-opened King Edward VII. Sanatorium, Ipswich. Domiciliary treatment in accordance with the regulations of the Local Government Board was instituted, and for such insured persons as required the same extra nourishment was provided.

I submitted a number of reports upon Tuberculosis during the year, and very little remains for me to say upon the subject. At the August meeting the County Council approved a scheme for the provision of a Tuberculosis Dispensary with branches, and the Public Health and Housing Committee were granted plenary powers of settling the terms of appointment and duties of the Tuberculosis Officer and Nurses, and making appointments, of arranging for the tenancy of suitable premises for the Dispensaries, and generally carrying out and completing all arrangements for such scheme. Also the power of concluding an Agreement with the Insurance Committee with regard

to the payments to be made by that Committee in respect of the treatment of insured persons at such Dispensaries, and of causing the Common Seal of the County Council to be affixed to all such documents as may be necessary. At the November meeting, the County Council resolved to inform the Local Government Board that the scheme for tuberculosis dispensaries approved by them at their meeting on the 6th August, is intended as an instalment of a complete scheme for the treatment of Tuberculosis in the County available for the whole community and not only for insured persons. It was further resolved that the County Medical Officer of Health be responsible for the general organisation and administration of such scheme, and that the Tuberculosis Officer, whilst independent clinically, be appointed on the staff of the County Medical Officer.

Steps were taken to organise the new dispensaries, and considerable difficulty was met with in obtaining suitable premises, but the difficulty was eventually overcome, although it was found impossible to get the dispensaries ready for occupation until early in 1913. During the year a number of patients were sent to various sanatoria, but I propose at the end of the year 1913 to issue a special report dealing more particularly with the administration of the campaign against Tuberculosis.

In my report for 1911 I made a rough estimate of the number of cases of Tuberculosis in Wilts based upon the number of deaths in the previous year. I there stated that we have a minimum number of 900 cases of Phthisis in Wilts. These figures are very largely corroborated by the actual number of notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis received during the year 1912, viz., 637 for the whole county, 371 for the Urban Districts and 266 for the Rural Districts. We have conclusive evidence that a considerable number of cases were not notified until they were almost in a dying condition, and during the year no less than 201 deaths were recorded, or nearly one-third of the number of cases notified. Under the National Insurance Act every case of Tuberculosis that applies for sanatorium benefit comes to our knowledge, and we therefore now get much more early knowledge of a number of the cases.

Powers to deal with Tuberculosis were greatly increased by an order issued by the Local Government Board, dated 19th December, 1912, by which Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis is included in the list of compulsorily notifiable diseases on and after the 1st February, 1913.

I have prepared the following Tables, showing the deaths from Phthisis and the various forms of Tubercular Disease at different age periods for the Urban and Rural Districts, and for the County as a whole :—

[illegible]

[illegible]

DEATHS RECORDED FROM PHTHISIS SINCE 1901.

YEAR.	Urban Districts.		Rural Districts.		Administrative County.		Death-rate in England and Wales.
	Deaths.	Rate.	Deaths.	Rate.	Deaths.	Rate.	
1901 ...	95	0·99	151	0·91	246	0·94	1·26
1902 ...	95	0·82	121	0·76	216	0·79	1·23
1903 ...	92	0·79	118	0·75	210	0·76	1·20
1904 ...	121	1·02	131	0·83	252	0·91	1·24
1905 ...	107	0·88	121	0·78	228	0·82	1·14
1906 ...	109	0·88	126	0·82	235	0·85	1·15
1907 ...	122	0·98	98	0·64	220	0·79	1·14
1908 ...	125	1·00	103	0·67	228	0·82	1·11
1909 ...	89	0·71	126	0·82	215	0·77	1·08
1910 ...	99	0·79	99	0·61	198	0·69	1·01
1911 ...	122	0·97	107	0·65	229	0·89	..
Average 1901-1911 ...	107	0·89	118	0·75	225	07 1	..
1912 ...	97	0·76	104	0·64	201	06·9	..

The following is a summary of the comments of the District Medical Officers of Health.

Urban Districts.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“ Eighteen cases were reported, 8 male and 10 female. Four cases came from other places, and were removed to their homes, so that the nett total was 14, made up of 8 men and 6 women. Four cases were removed to Winsley Sanatorium ; 2 cases ended fatally. No portion of the Workhouse is set apart for tuberculous cases of any description. The bed shared with the Rural part of the Union in the Winsley Sanatorium has been given up. Arrangements have been made with the Clinical Research Association, whereby specimens of sputum, etc., are examined free of charge for persons in poor circumstances who cannot afford to pay the necessary fees.”

CALNE.—“ Four cases were notified during the year ; 2 of these and 1 other died. Precautionary measures are taken and in case of death the house is disinfected and cleansed, infected clothing, etc., destroyed, and where necessary, compensation is paid for such destruction.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“ During the year six cases of Tuberculosis have been notified. The cases have been inquired into by the Medical Officer of Health.”

DEVIZES.—“ There were 10 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, 9 of which were residents in the town, and the other an Asylum inmate credited to the town. Several of these were chronic cases, who had been ill in some instances for a number of years. Thirteen cases were notified during the year.”

MALMESBURY.—“ Two cases were reported, one being a slight case which has now recovered and left the town, and the other ended fatally. After death in the latter case the house was thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. At the end of last year there were no cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the Urban District. During the year, steps have been taken whereby specimens of sputum, etc., are sent to the Clinical Research Association for examination.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“ There were 5 cases notified, 2 of which are chronic cases and under treatment. The cases were visited and printed instructions as to the necessary prophylaxis left.”

MELKSHAM.—“ There were three cases notified—one imported—and all ended fatally.”

SALISBURY.—“ Fifty-three cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been notified, eight of which have been transferred to the Medical Officers of Health of the District in which the patient's residence was situate. Every case notified whose residence is in the District has been personally investigated and particulars noted. Sputum flasks and paper handkerchiefs were given where needed, and printed as well as verbal instructions. The Council contribute towards the maintenance of a bed at the Winsley Sanatorium, but the greater part is contributed by voluntary subscribers. Four out of the 5 patients treated at Winsley Sanatorium during the year were from the District. Out of 69 cases in the town, excluding withdrawals and those who have left the district, 27 are dead. In 20 the disease is progressing, and in six stationary, but probably advanced ; this accounts for 53 cases ; in only 16 cases is there improvement or arrest of the disease.”

SWINDON.—“ Two hundred and thirty-one cases of Tuberculosis have been notified during the year. All cases of Consumption reported have been visited. Many of them have been ‘ advanced ’ cases of the disease. Where they were needed sputum bottles have been provided gratis. Leaflets of information for persons suffering from Consumption have been distributed. The Health Committee of the Borough have been anxious, pending the completion of the County Scheme, to afford assistance in the treatment of cases. A scheme was proposed for the use of the Small Pox Hospital for the reception of early or advanced cases of Consumption, but never came to fruition. Three ‘ huts ’ were purchased and provided with beds and bedding. They were made locally and have been in constant use for persons undergoing domiciliary treatment with good results. The four beds at the Winsley Sanatorium maintained by the Corporation of Swindon have been in use continuously during the year.”

TROWBRIDGE.—“ Twenty-two cases were notified during the year, three from Poor Law Medical Officers, four from Institutions, and the remainder from private practitioners. Most of the cases have been visited, and necessary instructions given. Sputum flasks are provided where required. A bed has been maintained in Winsley Sanatorium by voluntary subscriptions from the district, and has been in constant occupation. Arrangements are made whereby practitioners are empowered to send sputum to the Clinical Research Association at the Council's expense.”

WARMINSTER.—“ There was a diminution in the number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis as compared with the preceding year.”

WESTBURY.—“ Five cases were notified during the year.”

WILTON.—“ Nine cases were notified, and there were five deaths. In all cases of doubtful Tuberculosis the sputum has been examined. In the Union Workhouse there is one Male and one Female Ward, and a Wooden Shelter for one case. Of the cases notified this year, one early case was kept for some months pending a vacancy occurring in his County Sanatorium, where, after remaining three months, he was discharged with the disease arrested.”

Rural Districts.

AMESBURY.—“ Eighteen cases were notified during the year, and there were four deaths.”

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“ Seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were reported through the year ; one case was reported from the Royal United Hospital at Bath, the remainder by their medical attendants ; one case was sent to the Winsley Sanatorium and returned home greatly improved. one case ended fatally. Including the one from Bath Hospital, five cases were reported from Holt, one from Farleigh Wick, and one from Westwood ; five females and two males, their ages varying from 41 to 18. All houses are disinfected where deaths have taken place. The bed in the Winsley Sanatorium which was shared by the whole Union has been given up. No accommodation for Phthisical patients is made at the Workhouse.”

CALNE.—“ Five cases were notified. The houses of the patients and their sleeping accommodation are inspected, steps being taken to teach them to deal with their sputum, etc., properly. In case of death, the house is disinfected and the clothing destroyed.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“Thirty-three cases were notified, although some were not residing in the district. Investigations were made of those in the District. There were 16 deaths.”

CRICKLADE.—“There were 10 cases notified. In several cases, where considered necessary, the house occupied by the patient is visited, instructions issued with regard to disinfection, and prevention of infection to others, etc. Arrangements are made for the examination of sputum in suspected cases of the disease.”

DEVIZES.—“There were eight deaths. Thirteen cases were reported during the year; several of these were chronic cases of several years' standing.

HIGHWORTH.—“Forty-five cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. All were visited at their homes, and instructions were given by a leaflet left at each house as to the management of this disease.

“The Rural District Council maintain a bed at Winsley Sanatorium for the accommodation of early cases of Phthisis in uninsured persons. At the present time there is nothing provided for the reception of advanced cases of the disease, and these cases are in urgent need of assistance. An attempt was made to utilise the buildings owned by the Swindon and District Hospital Board which are set apart for Smallpox.”

MALMESBURY.—“During the year 20 cases were notified, four of whom died during the course of the year, two recovered, and one has left the district. Several of the remaining 13 cases are under treatment in Sanatoria.

MARLBOROUGH.—“Twelve notifications were received during the year, two of whom were non-residents. The cases were visited, and forms of instruction supplied. One case occurred in an insured person, and domiciliary treatment ordered.”

MELKSHAM.—“Of the notified cases, only two belonged to the district, and most of the others were sent to the Workhouse from outside in an advanced stage of the disease. All notified cases are visited, and general instructions given to avoid the spreading of the disease.”

MERE.—“Three cases were reported during the year; of these, one died, one was apparently cured and returned to work, and one case is still receiving domiciliary treatment. In every case the diagnosis of tuberculosis has been confirmed by a bacteriological examination of the sputum.”

PEWSEY.—“There were 18 cases notified, with 11 deaths.”

RAMSBURY.—“Four cases were notified, one of which ended fatally.”

SALISBURY.—“Nine cases were notified during the year, all of whom have been visited, and advice given as to means of prevention of the infection. Spitting flasks and disinfectants are provided when necessary. There were five deaths from the notified cases, and in one case the notification was transferred to another district. Two cases are at present in good health, and the remaining one is making a good recovery. In those cases that have died, the rooms which were occupied by the patients have been disinfected and limewashed.”

TISBURY.—“Twenty cases were notified. All cases were visited, and necessary advice with regard to precautionary measures given, and disinfectants supplied. The Medical Officer of Health advocates that more attention be paid to the home conditions of the patients suffering from Tuberculosis.

WARMINSTER.—“Nine cases were notified during the year, and there was one death.”

WESTBURY.—“Eight cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, and three ended fatally.”

WILTON.—“Twenty-three cases were reported, with seven deaths.”

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

Under this heading are included deaths from Bronchitis, Pneumonia (all forms), and the various other diseases of the respiratory system. The total number of deaths recorded during the year was 456 against 498 in 1911. Of this number, Bronchitis accounted for 243, Pneumonia 182, and other respiratory diseases 31. With the exception of the year 1910, this figure is the lowest on record.

The following table shows the mortality rate per 1,000 of the population for the County as a whole, and the Combined Urban and Rural Districts since 1901 :—

AREAS.		1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Administrative County	No. of Deaths	595	607	502	559	594	518	540	517	508	442	498	456
	Rate per 1000	2.19	2.22	1.83	2.03	2.16	1.87	1.95	1.86	1.82	1.54	1.73	1.58
Combined Urban Districts.	No. of Deaths	264	255	226	254	279	218	226	240	231	217	221	215
	Rate per 1000	2.34	2.22	1.94	2.16	2.29	1.77	1.83	1.92	1.94	1.74	1.86	1.70
Combined Rural Districts.	No. of Deaths	331	352	276	305	315	300	314	277	277	225	277	241
	Rate per 1000	2.08	2.23	1.75	1.94	2.05	1.95	2.05	1.81	1.81	1.39	1.70	1.48

CANCER.

Under this heading are included deaths from all classes of malignant disease. The number of deaths again shows an increase over the preceding year, 305 deaths being notified against 268 in 1911. The number of deaths in the Combined Urban Districts was 122, being an increase of 8 over the previous year, and in the Rural Districts 183 deaths were reported against 154 in 1911.

From a careful analysis of the Cancer Death-rate for England and Wales for the last 20 years it is clear that this is gradually on the up grade. Wiltshire corresponds in this respect, but the fact of this increase in the Cancer Death-rate is not in itself alarming. The deaths from Tuberculosis, Infantile Diseases, and other diseases affecting earlier periods of life has been diminishing. It therefore follows that a larger proportion of the population live to be affected by those diseases which prevail in later life and old age. This tends to show in my opinion that our efforts to combat the causes of early deaths have been in some measure successful. The problem of Cancer has yet to be solved, and whether any successful preventive measure against it will ever be evolved is a matter for the future.

Dr. E. F. Bashford (Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund) has come to the conclusion that there is no reason to believe that the disease is due to any form of parasite; indeed, he adduces evidence which renders it unlikely that a parasite can play a part. All we know for certain of the present conditions is that some form of irritation is traceable in practically every form. In mice the incidence of cancer is twice as high as individuals whose recent ancestors suffered from the same disease as it is in individuals whose remoter ancestors so suffered. This led him to regard the hereditary factor as one which cannot be ignored. He hints that the cause of the disease may be found in some subtle chemical or biological change, brought about by the presence of some hormone-like substance.

The following summaries show the death-rates from Cancer in the Urban and Rural Districts of the County :—

URBAN DISTRICTS.

Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.					Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				
Calne	....	....	....	1.97	Marlborough	....	....	....	0.89
Trowbridge	....	....	....	1.94	Chippenham	....	....	....	0.74
Wilton	....	....	....	1.88	Swindon	....	....	....	0.68
Warminster	....	....	....	1.45	Bradford-on-Avon	....	....	....	0.66
Westbury	....	....	....	1.16	Devizes	....	....	....	0.59
Salisbury	....	....	....	1.03	Malmesbury	....	....	....	0.37
Melksham	....	....	....	0.94					

RURAL DISTRICTS.

Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.					Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				
Tetbury	....	....	....	2.66	Amesbury	....	....	....	1.06
Ramsbury	....	....	....	2.10	Warminster	....	....	....	1.00
Calne	....	....	....	1.73	Pewsey	....	....	....	0.96
Melksham	....	....	....	1.59	Salisbury	....	....	....	0.88
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett	....	....	....	1.54	Highworth	....	....	....	0.78
Mere	....	....	....	1.54	Devizes	....	....	....	0.77
Wilton	....	....	....	1.35	Marlborough	....	....	....	0.66
Bradford-on-Avon	....	....	....	1.31	Tisbury	....	....	....	0.64
Malmesbury	....	....	....	1.28	Westbury and Whorwellsdown	....	....	....	0.45
Chippenham	....	....	....	1.25					

The rate for England and Wales for 1912 is not yet available, so I am unable to give comparisons, but the rate for 1911 was 0.96 per 1,000 of the population.

GENERAL EPIDEMIC MORTALITY.

The term "General Epidemic Mortality" embraces deaths from the following diseases, viz., Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Enteric Fever, Diarrhœa and Enteritis, Cerebro-Spinal Fever and Acute Poliomyelitis. These various diseases are dealt with under separate headings, and the comments of the District Medical Officers of Health given.

I am pleased to record that the total number of deaths from these causes dropped considerably from the preceding year, 126 deaths being reported against 216 in 1911. This is indeed a matter of congratulation after the phenomenal rise of 1911, as in some instances outbreaks continued into the year under review.

The following table shows the mortality from the principal "Epidemic" Diseases for the Administrative County, for the Combined Urban Districts and Rural Districts, and, for comparative purposes, the rate for England and Wales from the year 1901 :—

AREAS.		1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Administrative County	No. of Deaths	175	274	130	226	184	165	220	147	141	88	216	126
	Rate per 1000	.64	1.00	.47	.82	.669	.59	.79	.52	.50	.30	.75	.43
Combined Urban Districts	No. of Deaths	99	128	69	121	90	93	142	61	61	49	118	73
	Rate per 1000	.87	1.11	.59	1.02	.74	.76	1.15	.48	.48	.39	.94	.57
Combined Rural Districts	No. of Deaths	76	146	61	105	94	72	78	86	80	39	98	53
	Rate per 1000	.37	.92	.38	.67	.61	.47	.51	.55	.52	.24	.60	.32
England & Wales	Rate per 1000	2.05	1.64	1.46	1.94	1.52	1.73	1.26	1.29	1.12	1.23		

The distribution of deaths in the Urban Districts was as follows:—Calne, Malmesbury, and Warminster 1 each; Salisbury and Westbury 2 each; Trowbridge 3; and Swindon 25; whilst in the Rural Districts Amesbury, Chippenham, Malmesbury, Ramsbury, and Westbury had 1 death each reported, Marlborough 2, Pewsey 3, Cricklade 4, and Highworth and Salisbury 5 each.

In the following Table is given the annual Death-Rate per 1,000 from "All Causes," and the principal Zymotic Diseases for the County and for England and Wales during the year 1912:—

Districts.	Crude Death Rate.	Corrected Death Rate	Enteric Fever.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under two years, per 1,000 births.	Deaths under one year per 1,000 births.
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	13.3	13.0	0.04	0.00	0.35	0.05	0.23	0.11	8.53	95
95 Great Towns ..	13.8	14.1	0.04	0.00	0.47	0.06	0.26	0.13	10.91	101
146 Smaller Towns ..	12.4	12.6	0.05	0.00	0.35	0.05	0.24	0.11	8.01	98
England and Wales less the 241 Towns ..	12.9	11.9	0.04	0.00	0.20	0.04	0.17	0.10	5.82	86
WILTSHIRE	11.51	10.1	0.03	..	0.06	0.013	0.11	0.04	0.10	64
URBAN DISTRICTS ..	11.29	10.32	0.007	..	0.13	0.015	0.087	0.05	0.12	67
RURAL DISTRICTS ..	11.69	9.95	..	..	0.012	0.012	0.12	0.03	0.09	62

An examination of this table readily reveals the favourable position occupied by Wiltshire in every respect. This is most marked in the cases of Infantile Diarrhoea and Infantile Mortality.

NOTIFICATION OF MORTALITY FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year I have received each week from every district in the County a return showing the number of cases of Infectious Disease in each parish in the County, and have published the same regularly in the County Notification Summary, a copy of which is sent to each Medical Officer of Health in the County, the School Medical Officer, the Superintendent of the County Asylum, the Military Authorities, neighbouring County Medical Officers of Health, etc., etc., on the first day of each week.

The total of the cases notified in the weekly returns do not correspond with the figures given on Table II. of the Local Government Board statistical forms which are tabulated on Table II. A and II. B of this Report.

In the following remarks and rates of Infectious Diseases, I have confined myself, as usual, to the figures contained in the Tables accompanying the Annual Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health.

SMALL POX.

No case was reported as having occurred in the County during the whole year, but Authorities have been kept on the "qui-vive," as cases have taken place in neighbouring Counties in close proximity to our borders.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER AND ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

One case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis was reported in the Northern portion of the Malmesbury Rural District. Its place of origin was traced to an adjoining County. Every precaution was taken and there was no further spread of the disease.

In 1911 the Local Government Board issued a Memorandum and Circular advising Local Authorities to make these diseases notifiable. This was followed this year by the Board issuing on the 16th August an Order making these diseases compulsorily notifiable throughout the Country. The Order was accompanied by the following Circular:—

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER AND ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS)
REGULATIONS, 1912.

Local Government Board, Whitehall, S.W.
16th August, 1912.

Sir,

I am directed by the Local Government Board to advert to their circular letter of the 12th December last relative to the notification of Acute Poliomyelitis and Cerebro-Spinal Fever, and to the Memoranda by the Board's Medical Officer which were enclosed therewith.

In response to the suggestion contained in that circular many Local Authorities have taken steps under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, to make these diseases notifiable, but this action has not been taken universally. The Board are advised that more general action is now desirable, and they have, therefore, decided to require general notification of these diseases by means of an Order, of which copies are enclosed, under Section 130 of the Public Health Act, 1875, so that all cases of these diseases may at once be brought to the notice of the public health authorities.

The Order incorporates the provisions of the Act of 1889 and of the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, and those provisions of the Public Health Acts which relate to infectious diseases to which the Act of 1889 applies. The Board have not thought it necessary to prescribe a special form of certificate for cases of Acute Poliomyelitis and Cerebro-Spinal Fever, but they think it desirable that the Local Authority should be informed of the age and sex of the patient and of the date of the onset of the disease in addition to the information required to be set out in the certificate prescribed for the purposes of the Act of 1889. Article IV. requires this additional information to be stated on the certificate.

In districts in which these two diseases are already notifiable under the Act of 1889 the medical practitioner will notify under that Act and not under the Regulations. He will, however, be required under the Regulations to give the additional information above referred to.

Under Article VI. of the Regulations every Local Authority is required forthwith to cause notice to be given to every medical practitioner practising within the district of the Local Authority of the duties imposed upon him by the Regulations.

The Board would be glad if the Local Authority would send to them from time to time full particulars of cases notified to them under the Regulations or under the Act of 1889, and of the arrangements which have been made for the examination of cerebro-spinal fluid and other pathological material, and for the treatment of patients.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. C. MONRO,

Secretary.

SCARLET FEVER.

The incidence of this disease was much greater this year, 692 cases being notified as against 584 in 1911, and 393 in 1910. Eighty-five more cases were notified from the Urban Districts, whilst in the Rural Districts there was an increase of 23.

The 367 cases in the Urban Districts were distributed as follows:—Swindon 206, Trowbridge 60, Warminster 50, Salisbury 23, Devizes 14, Marlborough 6, Bradford-on-Avon 4, Calne 3, and Chippenham 1; whereas Malmesbury, Melksham, Westbury, and Wilton were entirely free from the disease.

In the Rural Districts notifications were received from:—Highworth 53, Wilton 44, Chippenham and Cricklade 24 each, Malmesbury, Salisbury, and Westbury 23 each, Tisbury 17, Amesbury 16, Calne 15, Bradford-on-Avon 13, Devizes, Marlborough, Mere, and Warminster 11 each, Pewsey 3, Ramsbury 2, and Melksham 1; Tetbury alone was free from the disease.

The Death-rate for the Administrative County was 0·013 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0·05 for England and Wales. The Urban Death-rate was 0·015, whilst that of 146 smaller towns of England was 0·05, and the Combined Rural District rate was 0·012, as against 0·04 for Rural England and Wales.

I append a summary of the Reports of the Medical Officers of Health on the prevalence of the disease in their respective areas :—

Urban Districts.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—Four cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in the first half of January, the remains of the outbreak last autumn. One was isolated at home, the three others were removed to the Statutory Hospital at Trowbridge. These cases were mild in character, with very little functional disturbance, and all occurred in children seven years of age and downwards.

CALNE.—Three cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified. All were removed to the Hospital and the homes disinfected. No further cases occurred.

CHIPPENHAM.—One case of Scarlet Fever was notified and removed to hospital. The house was disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector.

DEVIZES.—“ In the 14 cases of Scarlet Fever, one occurred in June, and the remaining 13 in October, November, and December. Five were members of one family, who contracted the disease from a return case discharged after ten weeks from a Fever Hospital in another city, and I connected one other case with this outbreak. The other 8 cases were in different parts of the town, and had no connection with each other. No schools were closed on this account. The whole of the cases were removed to the Hospital.”

MALMESBURY.—No cases reported.

MARLBOROUGH.—“ Six cases were notified, five of them in the same family. All were removed to the Hospital and the houses disinfected.

MELKSHAM.—No cases notified.

SALISBURY.—“ Twenty-three cases occurred in the district, no death followed. The cases were nearly all mild in character. Two were treated at the Isolation Hospital, Two Mile Hill, and eight were admitted to the Salisbury and District Joint Isolation Hospital.”

SWINDON.—“ Out of the 206 cases notified, 173 were children in attendance at the elementary schools. Of these 19 were in attendance at King William Street and 40 at Ferndale Road Schools. The other schools chiefly concerned were Clarence Street, College Street, and Sanford Street with 12 each, Gorse Hill with 15, and Westcott with 13 children in attendance who suffered from Scarlatina. I may say that I have received every assistance from the Head Teachers in the various schools where it was thought infections were taking place. I paid many personal visits to schools and examined classes, and as a result many children were excluded. The Head Mistress of the Infant Department of the King William Street Schools very clearly traced the course of the outbreak of Scarlatina in her school from its inception, and the report she made on the matter is extremely interesting as shewing the ease with which a considerable number of children can be affected from one common source. It was largely owing to the energy displayed by this lady that we were able to avert what might have been a serious outbreak at this school. At the Ferndale Road Schools in the Infant Department, where most of the cases occurred, I also received very valuable assistance from the Head Mistress. We were fortunate in being able to arrest this outbreak, as it is one of the largest schools in the town. The child who originated the outbreak was suffering from Scarlatina in an unrecognised form. His infectivity was, however, discovered, and he was conveyed to the Isolation Hospital and a stop put to his sphere of usefulness as a disseminator of disease. An outbreak of Scarlatina in the North Ward of the town was traced to its origin in a case of the disease outside the Borough. It formed a very pretty object lesson of how disease can be spread by neglect of instructions in the first place, and of the want of wisdom displayed by a person in business in the locality in declining to let his child be isolated in Hospital, and in neglecting to take the precautions prescribed for him. Some very straight talking ultimately was the means of arresting what might have been a serious outbreak.”

TROWBRIDGE.—“Scarlet Fever has shown a marked recrudescence. Isolated cases occurred in the early part of the year, but there was no epidemic outbreak. In June seven cases were notified, in July the number rose to 20, mostly in the Newtown district. With the closing of the Schools the outbreak ceased, and no notifications were received during August. In September nine further cases occurred, nine in October, four in November, five in December. The outbreak was of an extremely mild type. A mild type of Scarlet Fever is in some respects of more danger than a severe form. The symptoms of disease may be so slight that they may not be observed by the parents, or considered of no import. Thus, seven cases were notified as being in the desquamating stage; this means that these children had been freely mixing with others until this late symptom arose, and as some of them had been attending School it will be readily seen how the disease may be spread. A further danger lies in the fact that mild cases passing unrecognised, complications may the more readily be induced, and kidney affections have been more common during this outbreak than in former ones. Fortunately no fatal case occurred. I paid frequent visits to the Schools during the course of the outbreak, but only discovered one doubtful case.”

WARMINSTER.—“At the close of the previous year a case of Scarlet Fever occurred on the Common. On January 2nd of the year we are reporting on another case was notified. This was the commencement of an epidemic, and 50 cases occurred during the year. Of these, 44 were treated in the Isolation Hospital. Fortunately the type was a mild one. The Local Government Board and the County Medical Officer were informed on the outbreak assuming epidemic proportions. It is probable that the fever was brought in from Crockerton, and that its widespread distribution through the town was due to some child having had a very mild attack and so escaping observation. Forty-four houses were disinfected.”

WESTBURY.—No cases reported.

WILTON.—No cases reported.

Rural Districts.

AMESBURY.—“Sixteen cases were notified. One case occurred at Durrington, but was of a very mild character and did not spread. Fifteen cases occurred in the Winterbourne District, which necessitated closing the School from March 29th to April 14th. I cannot account for the outbreak as I was unable to trace any source of infection.”

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“Thirteen cases were reported during the year. Atworth, South Wraxall, and Westwood each with one case, all in children, and three miles at least from one another. The Westwood case occurred in the Workhouse, and in all probability caught the infection from a tramp. Limpley Stoke reported one case in a child on May 18th, two cases on June 23rd, and on August 14th, one, September 8th and November 21st, one on each date, making a total of six. Three of these were adults, two of them were sisters, and neither could be moved as one was the mother of an infant and the sister was nursing her; the other adult case lived in a good house with plenty of room for isolation. The three remaining cases were children and were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Trowbridge. From Winkfield four children were reported, involving two families; these cases were sent to Isolation Hospital. I consulted the medical men attending the cases at Stoke and Winkfield, but we were unable to come to any satisfactory solution as to how these cases originated.”

CALNE.—“Fifteen cases were notified, and all occurred in the village of Compton Bassett. When the epidemic commenced all cases were sent to the Isolation Hospital, and the village school was closed for one month. Within 10 days of the re-opening of the school several further cases occurred. The child from whom these further cases arose was probably found at an examination of the children remaining at the School, and isolated at the Hospital with the rest, with the result that the epidemic ceased. The schools were not closed on the second occasion.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“Twenty-four cases were notified during the year, 13 of which were sent to the Isolation Hospital. The cases were notified as follows:—12 from Box, 7 from Corsham, and 5 Lacock and Christian Malford.”

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT.—“Twenty-four cases were notified during the year, and 18 were removed to Hospital. The disease was of an exceedingly mild type.”

DEVIZES.—“Eleven cases were notified and 5 were removed to Hospital. Four cases at West Lavington and 2 at Bromham refused hospital treatment, and as isolation could be provided in the houses in which they occurred, no compulsory order was applied for.”

HIGHWORTH.—“Fifty-three cases were notified, with 1 death. The incidence of this disease is slightly in excess of last year. The chief prevalence has been at Castle Eaton, Inglesham, and Highworth. The outbreak at the first-named place was in March, with a few cases in April, and two further cases in August. Investigations made, elicited that the first infection was from a contact in the neighbouring village of Water Eaton, in the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Union, in a cottage where Scarlatina had occurred, apparently being unrecognised as such. Cases continued to occur, and the Elementary Schools were closed, as they were evidently a focus of infection. All cases were removed to Hospital, and the Schools were disinfected and colour washed. The two cases notified in August were in a house where previous infections had occurred in March, and some months after the discharge from Hospital of the children first affected. At Inglesham a group of cases of Scarlatina occurred which at first could not be traced. Ultimately it was found that a family in the neighbourhood had had the disease which had not been recognised, and the subsequent cases were all traced to contacts with this family. Considerable risk had been incurred of milk infection, as the men employed on a large dairy farm sending milk to London, had all been contacts with cases of the disease. In September, a limited number of cases of Scarlatina occurred in Highworth. Two licensed houses in the town had infections, and it is probable that they were instrumental in spreading infection. Infections were notified during the year from Stratton St. Margaret, Rodbourne Cheney, Chiseldon, and Liddington, but all affected persons were promptly removed to Hospital and the disease was arrested before it attained any undue prevalence. Of the total number of 53 cases of Scarlatina notified during the year, 47 were removed to Hospital for treatment.”

MALMESBURY.—“Twenty-three cases were notified during the year, of which 20 occurred at Sherston. The outbreak extended from the middle of August to the beginning of November. During that time it was found necessary to close the schools on three occasions. Eleven cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Fortunately the disease was of a mild type and no deaths occurred.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“Eleven cases were reported during the year. There was an outbreak at Ogbourne St. George in the early part of the year, and simultaneously two cases occurred at Ogbourne St. Andrew. I made visits of inspection to the schools to endeavour to trace the source, and also enquired into the possibility of its arising from milk or any other source apart from the schools. I was, however, quite unsuccessful in tracing it, and eventually closed the school at Ogbourne St. George, after which no fresh cases occurred.”

MELKSHAM.—“The solitary case occurred at Hilperton.”

MERE.—“Eleven cases were notified. The cases appeared at five different outbreaks of the disease, one at Kilmington, one at East Knoyle, and three at Mere. Altogether five houses were infected. In no case could the infection be traced. The cases were isolated at once in their homes, and precautions taken to prevent the disease from spreading.”

PEWSEY.—“Three cases were notified, viz., one at Burbage and two at Pewsey. The Burbage case was that of a youth aged 20, who had returned from Wales three weeks previously. No source of infection could be discovered. The Pewsey cases occurred in the same house, and defective drains were found at the back. All the cases were removed to Devizes Hospital.”

RAMSBURY.—Only two cases were notified during the year.

SALISBURY.—“Twenty-three cases were notified. They occurred as single cases in different parts of the district, and do not seem to be in any way connected with each other, and did not give rise to an outbreak of the disease in their respective families. Eight cases were notified from Downton. The first case was notified on 24th February, followed by infection of another member of the same family on 3rd March. These cases no doubt arose from infection derived from the outbreak of December, 1911. The remaining six cases were notified in May, June and July, and occurred in three families.

The patients were nursed at home, isolation being carried out as far as possible. A trained nurse was engaged by the Council, who was instructed to visit the cases and advise as to nursing, etc., and prevent as far as possible the spread of infection and unnecessary communication with infected houses. No further cases occurred. With regard to the West Grimstead cases, I received information from the Medical Officer of Health at Hove that a girl at Hove was suffering from Scarlet Fever, who had been staying at West Grimstead where some people had similar illnesses, but had not seen a doctor. I went immediately to West Grimstead, and found at the cottage mentioned a girl, aged 22, who gave a history of probably Scarlet Fever recently and was peeling. Two other children in the same house, aged 10 and 8, were also peeling with undoubted traces of Scarlet Fever. A child in the adjoining cottage I found suffering from the same disease. Two of these cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Three other cases were soon afterwards notified from these and another cottage in the vicinity. When it was found that any milkers lived in infected houses they were excluded from any form of dairy work."

TETBURY.—No cases reported during the year.

TISBURY.—"Seventeen cases of this disease were notified from nine houses. In one instance five cases occurred in one family, four of whom developed the rash within a few days of each other. Notification was received on August 1st. The rash in the first case appeared on July 20th, but apparently medical assistance was not obtained until July 29th, after several of the children had been infected. This outbreak was in a very isolated farm house, and there had been no cases of Scarlet Fever in the neighbourhood for some time. On enquiry, however, it was found that one of the patients had been on a visit to a district where there was Scarlet Fever. He returned home on July 19th, and the rash appeared on July 20th. It seems clear that the infection was an imported one. This group shows very well the infectivity of some strains of the Scarlatina poison. Infection is brought to a susceptible household on July 19th, and within a week all the juvenile members of the family are affected. On the other hand, infection may be present in similar surroundings and yet no extension takes place. A child aged eight years developed Scarlet Fever on March 7th. There were five others in the house all of susceptible ages and unprotected by previous attacks. No extension took place. No means of isolation were available other than those common to most small houses, and the nursing was done by the mother, who was in daily contact with the rest of the family. One May 10th and 11th two children at Chicklade became ill with Scarlet Fever, but the source of infection was not traced. They had arrived on a visit two days previously. I communicated with the Medical Officer of Health for the district from which they had come, but he knew of no focus which might have infected them. In two instances notified from Ludwell on August 5th and 6th I could not determine the origin. Towards the middle of August a case of Scarlet Fever occurred at Chicksgrove, and on making enquiries it was found that several children had been ill with sore throats. On further investigation I found a child living near who was said to have had a rash about a month previously, and that this had been preceded by vomiting and sore throat. The parents thought nothing of it as the child did not seem ill. She was peeling when I saw her. An undetected case such as this might cause a widespread epidemic in a more populous district, and it was fortunate so little mischief was done."

WARMINSTER.—"Eleven cases were notified. There were five cases in Upton Scudamore, all confined to one family. A case occurring on a farm in Sutton Veny, whence large quantities of milk were sent away, was followed at once by the removal of all cows in milk to another farm."

WESTBURY.—"Twenty-three cases were reported, but as four families have been responsible for 16 of them, the outbreak has not been serious."

WILTON.—"Forty-four cases were reported during the year. These were divided into an early epidemic at Broadchalke, 14 cases, which occurred before the opening of the new Joint Hospital, and of a later outbreak at Bemerton, as a result of which 21 cases were removed to the Joint Hospital. The cases were generally of a very mild type, and none were fatal. Much of the difficulty of checking the outbreak was due to the mildness of the throat affection and the frequent absence of rash so that parents did not always realise the nature of their child's illness, and allowed it to return to school."

DIPHTHERIA.

I am pleased to be able to report a marked diminution in the number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year under review, only 268 cases being reported as against 309 in 1911. The same number of deaths was recorded in this and the preceding year, viz., 12.

One hundred and fifty-six cases with 7 deaths were reported from the Urban Districts, and of these 130 or 83·3 per cent. were removed for treatment to Isolation Hospitals. In the Rural Districts 112 notifications were received, of which 62 or 64·2 per cent. were isolated in hospital.

The death rate from this cause was the same as that of 1911, viz., 0·04 per 1,000 of the population. The Death Rate for England and Wales in 1912 was 0·11 per 1,000. The death rate for the 146 smaller towns of England and Wales for 1912 was 0·11 and that of the Combined Urban Districts of Wilts was only 0·05. The rate for Rural England and Wales was 0·10 whilst the combined Rural District rate for Wilts was 0·03. From this it will be readily seen that Wilts is considerably below the average of the whole country.

Of the 156 cases in the Urban Districts Swindon accounted for 106, Salisbury 12, Devizes 11, Warminster 9, Trowbridge 7, Westbury 5, Bradford-on-Avon and Chippenham 2 each, Malmesbury and Marlborough 1 each, whilst Calne, Melksham and Wilton had blank returns.

In the Rural Districts the disease was distributed as follows :—Devizes 36, Salisbury 13, Ramsbury 12, Highworth, Melksham and Warminster 8 each, Westbury 7, Pewsey 6, Mere and Tisbury 5 each, Malmesbury 2, Amesbury and Cricklade 1 each, and Bradford-on-Avon, Calne, Marlborough, Tetbury, and Wilton had no notifications.

I give below the comments of the District Medical Officers of Health on the prevalence of the disease in their areas.

Urban Districts.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“Two cases were reported, one in February and one in October, and both were removed to the Isolation Hospital.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“Two cases were notified, one of which was removed to the Hospital and the other treated at home.”

DEVIZES.—Eleven cases were notified, and were entirely confined to members of two families ; in both cases the disease having been existing for some days before it was detected. All were removed to the Hospital.”

MALMESBURY.—“Only one case was notified, and this was isolated at home, and there was no spread.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“One case occurred, which was promptly removed to Hospital.”

SALISBURY.—“Twelve cases occurred in the district, with one death resulting. Three of these cases were removed to the Salisbury and District Joint Isolation Hospital.”

SWINDON.—“One hundred and six cases were notified, with 5 deaths resulting. At the close of the previous year Diphtheria had been abnormally present in the town, chiefly in certain localities—viz., the North and West Wards. In January of the year under review the incidence had fallen to 23, and in February to 13 cases ; in March, April and May, 7, 8, and 7 cases were notified respectively, and in June only one notification of the disease was made. A few cases occurred in the following months with a maximum of 11 cases in October. The disease prevailed with maximum intensity in the North and West Wards. This was to be expected, seeing that it was in these localities that the disease had its chief incidence in the closing months of the previous year, which ended practically with an unexhausted epidemic prevalence of Diphtheria. That the school had its influence in maintaining infection appears probable, seeing that the three elementary schools which are situate in the West Ward had nearly 50 children in attendance who suffered from Diphtheria. There is a factor which cannot be overlooked in the causation of this disease ; I allude to “carrier cases” of Diphtheria. These cases are difficult to detect as the children appear to be in perfect health, and present no physical signs whatever of disease.”

“Throats were swabbed in many cases where the disease was prevalent in the early months of the year, but we were not fortunate in spotting the “carrier” cases. One hundred out of the recorded number of 106 cases of Diphtheria notified were removed to Hospital for treatment.”

TROWBRIDGE.—“Seven cases were notified, and occurred in different parts of the town, and were not associated with one another.”

WARMINSTER.—“There were 9 cases notified, some of which were imported cases.”

WESTBURY.—“Five cases of this disease were notified, all of which occurred in the month of October. It is probable that one of these was an imported case, and the others contracted it through the carrier.”

ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER.

Ten cases of Enteric Fever were reported during the year, against 12 in 1911. Four cases were notified in the Urban Districts, viz., Salisbury 2, with one death resulting, and 2 at Swindon, whilst in the Rural Districts Amesbury, Chippenham, Devizes, and Malmesbury had a case each, and 2 notifications were received from the Highworth District.

The freedom from this disease we enjoy I attribute to the careful and continued watch maintained over the public and private water supplies in the County, and the immediate and stringent enquiry made immediately notification is received that a case has occurred. Wilts occupies one of the most favourable positions in the country with regard to immunity from this disease.

I give a brief history of the reported cases:—

SALISBURY URBAN.—“Two cases occurred, the cause was not discovered in either instance; both were treated at the Salisbury Infirmary and one died.”

SWINDON URBAN.—“Two cases were notified, and both originated outside the Borough area. One came all the way from Alexandria. Both were treated in Hospital, and did well.”

AMESBURY RURAL.—“One case was notified from Shrewton, and it was impossible to attribute the disease to any special cause. Pumping drainage from a sewage tank used on adjoining premises may have been a contributory cause, as the subject of the disease was much run down from overwork. This tank will be removed as soon as the spring water has subsided.”

CHIPPENHAM RURAL.—“This patient contracted the disease in Malta, and after a few days residence in the district entered the Bath United Hospital.”

DEVIZES RURAL.—“The case was at Allington, and was removed to the Hospital.”

MALMESBURY RURAL.—“The case occurred at Crudwell. The cause of infection is a large cesspool at the rear of the premises. There are two closets in connection with this cesspool, and 25 people use the two closets regularly. The patient was removed to the Cottage Hospital, Malmesbury, and every care taken with the excreta.”

HIGHWORTH RURAL.—“Both cases occurred in one house in Highworth, and it is probable that a case had existed previously in the same house which had not been recognised. The water supply used for this and other dwellings in the locality was found to be polluted, and the well was closed. There had been a couple of cases of Enteric Fever in the town of Highworth in the previous autumn in dwellings situate not far from the locality in which the present cases occurred. It is quite possible that infection may have been derived from this source.”

MEASLES.

This disease is notifiable in only two districts in the County, viz., Devizes Urban, where one case was notified, and Cricklade Rural, where 3 cases were reported.

This disease not being compulsorily notifiable under the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, the only way of gauging its prevalence is by the number of schools closed and the number of deaths. This method is very unsatisfactory as many deaths recorded from various diseases are in reality the sequelæ of Measles.

Eighteen schools in the County were closed on account of epidemics.

Nineteen deaths were reported, viz., Urban Districts, 17; Rural Districts, 2. The deaths in the Urban Districts occurred at Marlborough, 3; Salisbury, 3; Swindon, 9; and Wilton, 2; and in the Rural Districts one death took place at Devizes and Westbury.

Measles is one of the most important of the zymotic diseases as well as the most elusive, and I would again strongly urge that more rigorous action should be taken in dealing with this disease.

WHOOPING COUGH.

This disease has been markedly prevalent throughout the year and has seriously interfered with education, no less than 45 schools being closed on account of outbreaks, or 39.8 per cent. of total closures.

Thirty-two deaths were recorded, viz., Urban 11, and Rural 21. The deaths in the Urban Districts were:—Swindon 9, and Devizes and Westbury 1 each. The deaths in the Rural Districts were more evenly distributed, viz., Amesbury, 3; Devizes, 6; Highworth, 1; Marlborough, 2; Pewsey, 4; Ramsbury, 3; and Salisbury, 2.

The death-rate from this disease in the County was 0.11 per 1,000 of the population; the Urban Rate being 0.08 and the Rural 0.12.

DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS.

The number of deaths from these causes is practically one-third of the number recorded in 1911, 59 deaths being recorded, against 150 in the preceding year.

This reduction can be accounted for by the lack of sunshine during the summer and autumn and the consequent low temperature which would inhibit bacterial and fly life, which is unfortunately the usual concomitant of very hot weather.

With the exception of Swindon, where 23 cases occurred, the mortality from these diseases was fairly distributed over the whole County, no other district having more than five deaths reported.

The Swindon Medical Officer reports:—"Fourteen deaths occurred in children under 2 years of age. I consider that a prime factor in the inception of this disease is the unwholesome condition of back-yards which not uncommonly prevails, and I would draw special attention to the necessity which exists to have impervious paving in such yards, and especially to avoid having any loose bricks or to use any bricks except those which are hard and non-absorbent."

Of the 59 deaths, 28 occurred under the age of one year, and 4 between 1 and 2 years.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Good progress has been made during the year with regard to the provision of Isolation Hospital accommodation for the County.

Following on my report, a County Council Enquiry was held on 8th February, under Section 7 of the Isolation Hospitals Act, 1893, as to the establishment of a Joint Hospital District for the Urban and Rural District Councils of Warminster. On the 16th March, 1912, the County Council issued an order constituting these areas a "Joint Hospital District." Plans have been prepared and submitted to the Local Government Board, and a Local Government Board Inquiry was held in the early part of 1913. It is hoped ere long that building operations may be commenced.

A further enquiry was held by the County Council on the 28th February, 1912, as to the necessity for the establishment of an Isolation Hospital for the Pewsey Rural District. On the 20th November, 1912, the County Council issued an order adding the Pewsey Rural District to the Devizes Joint Isolation Hospital District. This is a satisfactory arrangement and works well, and the expeditious removal of infectious cases is a great advantage, especially in a district like Pewsey, which is in contact with a large itinerant military population.

The new Joint Isolation Hospital for the Urban and Rural Districts of Salisbury and Wilton, and the Amesbury Rural District was opened in October. This is a hospital with provision for the treatment of three diseases concurrently. The hospital is built on modern principles, and has a motor ambulance for the proper and rapid conveyance of patients, and has its own water supply, abundant in quantity and good in quality, and sewage disposal works. The Hospital is lighted by electricity generated in the grounds, and is also connected to the telephone. The old Scarlet Fever Hospital at Three Mile Hill was closed in July, as it was no longer required.

Last year I dealt very fully with the construction of the various Isolation Hospitals throughout the County, and I do not think it necessary to again give these details, but will confine myself to any additions or alterations that have been made during the year.

Urban Districts.

CHIPPENHAM.—“ In the spring the greater part of the Hospital was cleansed, the walls scraped and colour washed, and the lower part of the walls, inside and out, painted to prevent dampness. A new Thresh Steam Disinfector was installed at a cost of £456 3s. 6d. All the floors have been treated with Ronuk, and the wood floor in the kitchen having worn out, a tessellated brick floor was laid instead. Some trouble was experienced with the hot water pipes owing to sediment, but this was remedied.”

MALMESBURY.—“ Additional rooms for the accommodation of the nurse and more closet accommodation has been provided. A properly equipped horse ambulance has been acquired, and has proved very satisfactory. The Council have become subscribers to the Clinical Research Association for the examination of pathogenic material.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“ A new Thresh Current Steam Disinfector has been provided to replace the old one which was worn out.”

Rural Districts.

CRICKLADE.—“ The new disinfector has been in use, and has proved a boon to the Authority.

The only districts in the County not provided with Isolation Hospital accommodation are Mere, Ramsbury, and Tisbury. These districts are quite rural in character, and infectious disease is never very rampant, but I would strongly recommend the District Councils to erect a cheap Hospital, something on the lines of my Isolation Cottage Hospital. These are very inexpensive, and would be always ready for any emergency, and would not necessitate the employment of a permanent staff. The districts are so situate that combination with a neighbouring authority is hardly practicable.

WATER SUPPLY.

The rainfall during 1912 was the heaviest recorded for more than ten years past, no less than 41.49 inches being recorded. The month of April was the only month during which less than one inch of rain fell, only 0.12 of an inch falling on 3.12 days. The mean number of days during the year on which rain fell was 208.33, compared with 166.43 in 1911.

The question of water supply is the most important matter in public health, and unremitting care has always been taken to ensure the purity of our public water supplies, and every effort made to obtain wholesome water where the supplies are unsatisfactory.

I give a brief summary respecting the water supplies of the various districts:—

Urban Districts.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“ Four more houses were connected with the public mains. The water is hard in character varying from 19.5° to 20.5° and has no solvent action on lead, but chokes the pipes with lime deposits. The water has been analysed in every case where householders draw their supplies from wells or springs.”

CALNE.—“ The supply is owned by the Calne Waterworks Co., and is drawn from a well at Calstone. It is pure in character, and free from organic matter. It has no plumbo-solvent action, and the supply is ample.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“The Urban District Council own their own waterworks. The supply is ample and the water of good quality, and has no solvent action on lead.”

DEVIZES.—“The supply has been abundant throughout the year. A sample was submitted for analysis, and the water was found to be of high organic purity.”

MALMESBURY.—“Six hundred and eighty-nine houses are supplied from the Town Waterworks, an increase of 23 over the previous year. In the early part of the year 26 samples of well water were submitted for analysis, of which 24 were condemned. The town water was examined and reported as being of good quality.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“The supply is abundant, and the quality remains excellent.”

MELKSHAM.—“The town is supplied by the Trowbridge Water Co. The water is pure, but very hard. The service is constant, and nearly every house is connected. There is a daily consumption of 20 gallons per head of the population.”

SALISBURY.—“The larger portion of the district is served by the Corporation Waterworks, but a part of the district situate in the Wards of St. Paul and Fisherton is supplied by the Bemerton Water Co., a private Company with statutory powers. The water is analysed, chemically and bacteriologically, at regular intervals, and is found to maintain a high standard of purity. The quantity of water for domestic purposes was 27·25 gallons per head of the population; this only applies to the Corporation Waterworks.”

SWINDON.—“The whole area of the town is included in the Corporation Water Service, as well as the parishes of Rodbourne Cheney, Stratton St. Margaret, and part of the parish of Wroughton. The supply is constant. During the year under review the average daily consumption of water was 750,000 gallons. From January 1st to July 16th, 1912, this quantity was supplied from the Wroughton Waterworks from adits driven in the upper greensand formation. From July 16th 1912, to November 1st, 1912, the deep well at Ogbourne was in operation as an auxiliary supply. From 350,000 to 450,000 gallons of water, drawn from the upper greensand and lower chalk formations was delivered into the reservoirs on four days a week. For the last two months of the year the water supply of the town was derived entirely from the Wroughton Works. It is thus seen that there is always an ample reserve supply at Ogbourne for any calls that may be made on it. The Wroughton Reservoir overflowed, showing an excess of supply over consumption, till May 13th, and overflowed again on December 20th, 1912. The Overtown Reservoir at Wroughton is used as a storage for what is known as the high level supply. The Okus Reservoir at Swindon stores the water needed for the low level distribution.

“The rainfall for the year 1912 was $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches over the average of 27·10 inches for the last 10 years. It amounted at Wroughton to 34·84 inches, and at the Great Western Park at Swindon to 34·61 inches. April was the driest month, with a rainfall of ·07 inches, and August the wettest month, showing a record of 5·37 inches.

“Monthly samples are taken, usually alternately from the high and low level supplies by the Medical Officer of Health, which are examined by the Borough Analyst, Mr. G. Bird, F.C.S. His reports show a high degree of chemical purity throughout the year. During the last four months of the year, due probably to the abnormal rainfall, he found micro-organisms present in unusually large numbers. Multiplications of the organisms appeared to take place in the Okus Reservoir. This has accordingly been cleaned out, with good results.”

TROWBRIDGE.—“The district is supplied by the Trowbridge Water Co. The source of supply is from adits driven into the chalk, and from a well sunk through the chalk into the lower greensand. The supply is constant and the quality good.”

WARMINSTER.—“The supply is from wells in the greensand, and is of good quality and ample in quantity.”

WESTBURY.—“The supply remains constant, and the quality good.”

WILTON.—“The water from the Corporation Waterworks is supplied to 549 houses, and has been abundant and of excellent quality. It has been examined on six occasions and the analysis gave the same results as those which I gave fully last year. The pumps at the Waterworks have become worn out, and plans have been passed for changing the present system of steam pumping to one of pumping by gas engines. The alterations are begun and will include the erection of the necessary gas generator, and the removal of the present boilers. It is very desirable that the machinery should include some automatic indicator of the number of gallons pumped as at present we have no means of estimating the daily supply per head. Two samples of water taken from the wells of those houses which lie beyond the reach of the Corporation mains were examined and found good.”

Rural Districts.

AMESBURY.—“Twelve samples were analysed during the year; 3 were condemned and the rest passed as fit for domestic use. Ten wells were sunk, and 7 cleaned and repaired. A Company is being formed for the purpose of supplying Amesbury Parish with water, which will, I think, if carried out, prove a great boon to the inhabitants, and it would be beneficial if the scheme could be made to embrace more villages in this locality, as in several villages the wells are liable to pollution from cess-pits which unfortunately lie in close proximity to them. The occurrence of wells in close proximity to cess-pits is a bad principle, as there is bound to be pollution where such an arrangement exists, but until a scheme of wholesome water supply is introduced throughout these villages, matters cannot be improved, unless the pail system is universally adopted and thoroughly carried out.”

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“Most of the villages in the district have public water supplies, which are of fair quality. The village of South Wraxall sorely needs a public supply as in times of drought great scarcity is experienced. To the north-east of the village is a large water shed, from which a supply could be obtained.”

CALNE.—“Most of the houses in the district are supplied from wells and springs. There is a public supply at Foxham under the control of the Rural Council, and there is a private supply for the village of Hilmarton. One well was closed during the year.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“During the year the new Allington scheme has been completed, and is of great help. This supply should be carried to Kington St. Michael, where the supply is at present very unsatisfactory and calls for immediate remedy. The water supply of the hamlets of Moorgreen, Westwells, and Velley, in Corsham Parish, has been investigated. Thirteen samples were submitted for analysis, and in some cases the water was found to be badly polluted. This matter is now receiving the attention of the Parish and District Councils, and financial arrangements are the only stumbling block. The supply at Box Hill has been enlarged and improved.

“The following villages have public supplies of good character:—Corsham, Box, Lacock, Kington Langley, Christian Malford, Stanley, Biddestone, Chippenham Without, parts of Hardenhuish, Burton, and part of Langley Burrell.”

CRICKLADE.—“This continues to be of a satisfactory nature, and Cricklade, Purton, Purton Stoke, and Wootton Bassett have had constant supplies during the year. Fourteen new connections have been made to the public mains, and it was found necessary to take action in one case under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, Section 111. Section VI. of this Act is enforced in all cases in the district.”

DEVIZES.—“No changes have been made during the year. The question of the water supply of the lower part of Great Cheverell was considered in consequence of a complaint of the effects of drinking the stream water upon the children of the village. This has been the subject of consideration during the past thirty years, and the trouble yet remains unsettled.”

HIGHWORTH.—“ There are three sources of Public Supply, owned by the Swindon Corporation, the Highworth Rural District Council, and the North Swindon Estate Co. respectively. The first-named Corporation supplies 583 houses at Wroughton, Stratton St. Margaret, and Rodbourne Cheney. This is an increase of 40 houses so supplied during the year. Six hundred and twenty houses are supplied from Public Waterworks owned by the Rural District Council at Wroughton, Wanborough, Liddington, Inglesham, Highworth, and Blunsdon. Twenty additional houses have been supplied in 1912 from these sources.

“ Private Waterworks supply 215 houses, an increase of 26 in the period under review. Springs afford a supply in 521 instances, and there are also 1,587 wells in the district. Ninety-two wells have ceased to be a source of supply during the year. Rainwater tanks store water for domestic purposes in 20 instances, and the water of the Wilts and Berks Canal is used by three householders. Three new wells were sunk and the waters approved as a source of supply.

“ Twenty-eight samples of well water were examined by the Medical Officer of Health during the year. Twelve wells were condemned, seven were ordered to be cleaned out, and nine of the waters examined were found to be of good quality.

During the year another effort was made to provide a water supply for the hamlets of Coate and Banbury. The water it is proposed to use rises at Banbury in springs from the upper greensand and chalk formations. The supply is ample, and favourable terms have been conceded by the land-owner to the District Council. There seems to be a reasonably good prospect that these places will now have a proper water supply.

MALMESBURY.—“ Several improvements have taken place in the water supply of this district during the year.”

OAKSEY.—“ This village has at last a wholesome supply of water from a well 29 feet deep in an arable field. The supply is constant and apparently is ample. The water is pumped to a supply tank of 7,500 gallons at the end of the village whence it is distributed to five stand pipes in the village. The water has been analysed and found to be of good quality.”

HULLAVINGTON.—“ A portion of this village has now been supplied with water. The work has been carried out by Eton College. The supply is from a bore $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and 220 feet deep. The bore is lined for approximately two-thirds of its depth with steel tubes, and goes down into the great Oolite limestone. The water is pumped into two sets of tanks fixed in a water tower near the bore. Half the tanks are in the ground floor, and supply the low lying parts of the village. The other half are fixed in the upper part of the tower to supply the higher portions of the village. The total storage capacity is 2,500 gallons, but space has been provided for an additional 1,500 or 2,000 gallons, should the same be found necessary. Only one house is supplied direct, but stand pipes are fixed at convenient positions in the village, from which the tenants draw water by means of keys which are provided on payment of a nominal annual charge. The water has several times been analysed and found to be of good quality. I should like to see this service extended and so embrace a larger area.”

CORSTON.—“ The work in connection with the supply to this village has been completed, but proved unsatisfactory. Alterations have been necessary, and it was impossible to carry them out owing to the swollen state of the stream.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“ The water supply is almost entirely by shallow wells. A number of houses on the higher ground are mainly dependent on rain water.”

MELKSHAM.—“ The greater part of the district is within the area of the Trowbridge Water Company. The supply is good and constant, except at Sell's Green, where storage cisterns are in use.”
“ At Seend and Sandridge water is obtained from wells in the greensand.”

MERE.—“ No change has taken place during the year in the character of the supplies. During the year six wells have been closed as polluted, 28 houses have been added to those supplied from the public waterworks, and four samples were submitted for analysis.”

PEWSEY.—“ The public water supply at Pewsey is still not used so largely as it should be, although there are more consumers than last year. Three wells were condemned, and the public supply laid on. The supply at Ludgershall is completed, and is used extensively.”

RAMSBURY.—“ There is no public water supply, and wells in the chalk are the principal source of supply. One new well was sunk, and on the Fosbury Estate water works for the supply of the farms and cottages have been erected. One sample was submitted for analysis, and was passed as fit for drinking purposes.”

SALISBURY.—“ The main source of supply is from shallow wells. At Farley there is a supply of public water from a reservoir provided by the late owner of the estate. Lord Radnor's private reservoir supplies the villages of Alderbury, Nunton, Bodenham, Odstock, and West Grimstead.”

TETBURY.—“ The supply is from wells, and no sample has been submitted for analysis.”

TISBURY.—“ The public water supply for East Tisbury and Wardour was completed and available for use early in June. The area supplied by the mains contains approximately 325 houses, and of these 115 had been connected up by the end of the year, and further connections are in progress. The daily consumption for all purposes is roughly 3,500 gallons, or an average of about 30 gallons per house. This supply is from the Law Springs with an average flow of 150,000 gallons daily. The water is lifted to a reservoir of a capacity of 120,000 gallons, which is at such an elevation to allow water to be delivered at a pressure of 60 lbs. to the square inch at the highest point in the area supplied.

“ The public supply is good in quality, and ample in quantity, and 72 houses are supplied from it.

“ Additional supplies are provided from private sources at Berwick St. John, Semley, Fonthill Gifford, and Barker's Hill. Eleven samples were sent for analysis, of which 9 were condemned.

“ One hundred and fifteen additions were made to the public mains, so that practically one-third of the houses in the district are connected with public supplies. ”

WARMINSTER.—“ Upton Scudamore, Corsley, Chapmanslade, Heytesbury, Bishopstrow, Norton Bavant, and Stockton have public supplies. The rest of the district is supplied by wells. The rainfall makes a considerable difference to the supply at Imber and Chitterne, but no scarcity was experienced this year.”

WESTBURY.—“ During the year the Steeple Ashton scheme has been completed and most of the houses and farms have been connected. There are one or two hamlets where the supply is not satisfactory, and efforts are being made to bring these into line. The quality of the water at Keevil is doubtful, and should the Steeple Ashton supply prove sufficient, this might with advantage be carried to Keevil and would be of great help to the inhabitants.”

WILTON.—“ The water supply is by mains in Bemerton, Dinton, and Fovant, and by stand pipes in Quidhampton. The other portions of the district are supplied by wells and rain tanks. Thirty-five samples were analysed during the year, 10 of which were declared unfit, and the wells or tanks cleansed or repaired. One well was closed, five new wells were sunk, and 28 more houses connected with public supplies.”

DRAINAGE. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

I give a summary of the statements of the District Medical Officers of Health on the drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal, and of the condition of the streams and watercourses in their respective districts.

Urban Districts.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“ Last year there were 10 privies and 1 pail closet in the Urban Area ; this year the privies have been reduced to 4.”

“Except one or two of the larger houses on the boundary, where the expense of connecting with the sewers is prohibitive, and some that lie at too low a level, the whole Urban Area is drained, the sewage being taken out of the town to the Sewage Works a mile away to the west, so that there is no pollution of the river from that cause.”

CALNE.—“There is no pollution of the River Marden from sewerage. The district is sewered with the exception of a few houses at Quemerford and Cow Lane. The sewers are flushed twice a week in summer, and once a week in winter. The sewage is carried to a field about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles below the town, where it is disposed of on the downward intermittent filtration system.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“The whole of the district is sewered, and the outfall works are giving satisfaction. The sewers are so laid as to give a self cleansing velocity.”

DEVIZES.—“The Dibdin Slate contact beds work well, and no complaint has been made of the condition of the brook during the year.”

MALMESBURY.—“There have been no alterations, and the sewage is still discharged into the River Avon in a crude state.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“The same system is being worked as in former years, the sewage being treated in a septic tank and then over a series of filters. When the sewage is very much diluted with storm water it is allowed to pass directly on to the land.”

MELKSHAM.—“The new sewers continue to act satisfactorily. The disposal works and septic beds were started on January 9th, 1913, and bid fair to do their work efficiently. The whole drainage scheme has taken upwards of seven years, with many interruptions, to construct, and at a cost of £18,000. All the houses in the town are now connected with the sewers.”

SALISBURY.—“The sewers remain in good condition, and the works continue to act satisfactorily, a very good effluent being obtained. Closet accommodation is almost entirely on the water carriage system; the only exception is seven earth closets which exist on account of special conditions.”

SWINDON.—“The town of Swindon is completely sewered, and the larger part of it has a separate system of storm water sewers. Owing to the objection, no doubt on the score of expense, which appeared years ago to be urged against pumping sewage, the sewage system of Swindon is designed to deliver its load by gravitation at the two Sewage Farms for disposal. The result is the flat sewers which are formed in many parts of the district. Pumping by electric motors has, however, recently been adopted in one of the Town Wards where development is likely to take place, as it was found to be impossible to deliver sewage by gravitation. Some of the sewers are flushed by ‘Automatic Flushers’ where the gradients are very flat. A considerable number of houses in the town have their drains intercepted from the general sewerage system.

“Broome Sewage Farm, which comprises 140 acres of land, receives the sewerage of the Old Town of Swindon now known as the South Ward of the Borough. The dry weather daily flow is about 130,000 gallons. Chemical treatment is used, and lime is the agent provided for clarifying. A new automatic mixer for use continuously night and day has been provided. The proportion of lime used is seven and one-fifth grains per gallon of sewage. The other plant consists of six precipitating tanks, four coarse contact beds, one-seventh of an acre in area, and four fine filters together of an area of one acre in extent. Unlike the Rodbourne Farm, there is plenty of ‘fall’ for working all the contact beds. Land treatment is applied to the filter effluent before it is discharged into the River Ray. The final effluent is such as to fulfil the requirements of the Thames Conservancy Commissioners.

“Rodbourne Farm.—This farm now receives the sewerage of the whole of the town which is not dealt with at Broome. Only about half of the 120 acres of which the farm consists are available for ‘treatment.’ To utilise the whole of the land, pumping would have to be resorted to. There is no doubt that the selection of the site of this farm many years ago was not fortunate. The land is not suitable, and the ‘fall’ to be obtained for treating the sewage is insufficient for useful purposes. About 1,200,000 gallons of sewage, under normal conditions, are treated here daily.

Lime and copperas are used as clarifiers and precipitants. About eight and three-fifth grains of lime are used to a gallon of sewage. Storm water is treated separately. The 'plant' consists of tanks of a capacity of 940,000 gallons; filters of an area of $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres, with a final set of filters comprising an extent of $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres; the total filtering area being $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Formerly the filtering material used was burnt ballast. This is now almost entirely superseded by fine hard 'clinker.'

"As I have previously stated, the final effluent from this farm does not satisfy the River Thames Commissioners, whose standard of purity is a very high one. In the preceding year application was made by the Corporation to the Local Government Board for a loan of £6,200 for additional works. Since this time, however, the Farm Committee have gone very thoroughly into the question of the requirements of the farm, and visits have been paid to several up-to-date sewerage disposal works. The result has been the abandonment of the previous scheme and the adoption of a new one, which entails an expenditure of £24,000, a loan for which has been applied for."

In the 8th Report of the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the methods of Treating and Disposing of Sewage, the following Summary with regard to Swindon and the River Ray, appears:—

"The Effluent is an opalescent liquid with a brownish tint. It has usually a slightly fishy smell. On the average it contains about 2·5 parts per 100,000 of suspended matters.

	Parts per 100,000.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	2·10
Nitric Nitrogen	0·69
Oxygen absorbed from $\frac{N}{8}$ permanganate in 4 hours at 80° F.	1·83
Dissolved Oxygen taken up from water at 65° F.—	
In 48 hours	1·05
In 5 days	2·45

1. The effluent, when mixed with its own volume of water of poor quality gave rise on occasion to smell.

2. In warm weather the water of the river was materially deoxygenated through admixture with the effluent.

3. There was a small deposit of effluent mud just below the outfall, but beyond this the bed of the river was not seriously fouled with effluent suspended matter.

4. There was much grey algal growth below the outfall. It extended for about half a mile and covered the bed of the river in places. In warm weather green algal growth commenced to be abundant a mile below the outfall.

5. Coarse fish were not present in the river between the outfall and Moredon Bridge, a mile and a quarter below the outfall.

TROWBRIDGE.—"These works have not given satisfaction, and a satisfactory effluent has not been obtained constantly during the year. A Local Government Board Inquiry was held on the 20th December on an application by the Urban District Council to borrow £16,000 for the extension and improvement of their sewage disposal works.

"It is proposed that provision shall be made for dealing with five times the average dry weather flow, this average being 500,000 gallons in 24 hours. From the pumping station the sewage will be received into one large detritus and separating tank formed by the conversion of the present three sedimentation tanks. This tank, of the Fieldhouse type, will be so constructed as to comprise two chambers; the sewage will be first received into the inner chamber where it will be broken up and sedimentation will occur, the sludge being drawn off. The heavier solids having been deposited, the sewage will pass into the outer chamber, and thence, after further deposition of solids and subsequent passage under scum boards, will be conveyed by a weir 364 feet in length to the filtering area. For preliminary filtration it is proposed to construct two large filter beds by conversion of the

existing eight primary contact beds ; they will have a total capacity of 10,545 cubic yards, and will be filled with broken stone ; over these beds the fluid will be sprinkled by travelling distributors. After this preliminary filtration, the liquid will pass to two humus tanks, having a capacity of 71,750 and 80,719 gallons, where further deposition of solids will take place. For final treatment the liquid will pass on to eight secondary filter beds formed by the conversion of the existing secondary contact beds ; the total capacity of these beds will be 4,800 cubic yards, and the filtering material small stone chippings ; they will be fed by eight rotary distributors. From these beds the final effluent will be conveyed direct to the river.

“ The excess storm water sewage over and above five times the dry weather flow will be received in two stand-by tanks, each capable of holding a quarter of the dry weather flow. These tanks will be provided at the top with overflows direct to the river, and a means for returning the contained water direct to the river, and also means for dealing with the sludge.

“ Sludge will be removed from the centre tank every day, and will be dealt with by trenching.

“ The estimated cost of this scheme is £16,500.”

I have very grave doubts that when the scheme is completed the troubles of the town of Trowbridge will not be ended. I do not consider the site at all suitable for dealing with the very large volume of highly offensive sludge that will be produced, and I shall be much surprised if, after working a short time, a most offensive aerial nuisance is not produced. The land is quite unsuitable for dealing with it and farmers will not cart it away for manure as a rule even if they are paid for doing so. Works for pressing and drying sewage sludge are expensive to erect and still more expensive to work.

WARMINSTER.—“ The land treatment of the sewage is efficient, and the character and sufficiency of the arrangements for drainage throughout the district are good.

WESTBURY.—“ During the year the question of providing the town with a proper system of sewerage disposal has received the attention of the Urban Council. A scheme has now been adopted and the only difficulty remaining is one of finance.”

WILTON.—“ Since the alteration in the method of delivering the sewage from the town, entailing the abolition of the Pumping Station and the delivery to Bemerton by gravitation, no complaints of pollution have been received. With the exception of those houses which lie beyond the range of the sewers, all the houses have w.c.'s with proper flushing arrangements. In no case are soil-pans allowed to be connected to the mains direct. The sewer at Water Ditchampton has now been carried up for some distance beyond the line of the Water-works, and the houses in that part have been changed from a conservancy to a water carriage system of sewage disposal. This arrangement has removed any possible danger of contamination of the public water supply even in periods of prolonged flood. In purely rural parts of the district privies and earth closets are used.”

Rural Districts.

AMESBURY.—“ The necessity for providing proper systems of sewage disposal for the rapidly growing villages in proximity to the military camps still exists, and no action has yet been taken. The streams and watercourses are in good order.”

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“ With the exception of the village of Holt, the district is sewerless. A public drain runs through Atworth conveying slop and surface water.”

“ The sewage from Limpley Stoke is still discharged into the Avon untreated, but a scheme is now being considered by the Bath Rural District Council which may remedy matters.

“ The Holt Brook, which has for years carried a large volume of manufacturers' effluent from a Fellmonger's Yard into the Avon is now in a satisfactory condition. The effluent is now conveyed by pipes to the brook some distance from the village.”

CALNE.—“ There are no public sewers or drains in the district, and no complaint was received of pollution of streams.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“ There has been no alteration in the drainage of the district during the year, but extra lengths of pipes have been laid in the parishes of Chippenham Without and Colerne ”

CRICKLADE.—“ Cricklade and Wootton Bassett alone have sewerage systems, and these continue to act satisfactorily. Two hundred and five privies and vault closets have been converted into pail closets during the year.”

DEVIZES.—“ There has been no change during the year, and the only systems in the district are the two small septic tanks for the Barracks and a few houses at Broomfield.”

HIGHWORTH.—“ Out of a total of 3,688 houses, 2,127 are drained to sewers, which dispose of the sewerage by filtration and irrigation. This is an increase of 149 during the year. There are in the district sewerage schemes and disposal works of importance and utility. Four hundred and fifty-two houses are connected with the sewers in Wroughton. The “ disposal ” consists of subsidence tanks and land irrigation, the final effluent being received by a branch of the river Ray. At Highworth the town is drained with a modern system of sewers, and the sewerage is disposed at two outfalls by subsidence and irrigation. Four hundred and thirty-six houses are connected with the public sewers. A few additions appear to have been made during the year. Stratton St. Margaret has a very complete and extensive system of modern sewers with up-to-date works at the one outfall, where the sewage is disposed by subsidence, bacterial filtration and land irrigation. This is the most complete system in the district. Seven hundred and fifty-four houses are now connected with the sewers, 14 houses having been drained to them during the year under review. At Rodbourne Cheney, in the Haydon District, a new system of sewers and disposal works has been completed during 1912. Two hundred houses are now connected as against 87 in the previous year. The comprehensive scheme for the sewerage of the whole of this scattered parish does not now appear likely to be carried out in its entirety. There are sewers to be found in eight other parishes. They are, however, chiefly for slop water. Five hundred and fifty-three houses drain to cesspits and 573 have no drains. Nineteen new drains have been laid and 40 repaired during the year.”

MALMESBURY.—“ In my last report I drew attention to the large number of insanitary cesspits in your district. At the same time I pointed out the desirability of a scavenging system in certain portions, more especially Sherston. In this village there are a large number of cesspits. If these are converted to pail closets a difficulty arises, as in some cases there is not enough garden for the contents of the pails to be buried. A special committee was appointed to investigate this question and a report was drawn up which was decidedly antagonistic to a sewage scheme at Sherston.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“ The streams and rivers are under the jurisdiction of the Thames Conservancy. With the exception of private water carriage systems in some of the large houses, the system of privies prevails. There are 44 water closets, 744 pit closets, and 383 pail closets. The pit closets are unsatisfactory, as they are very infrequently cleaned out.”

MELKSHAM.—“ One hundred and twenty yards of new sewers were laid at Church Lane, Forest, and five houses connected therewith. The Hilperton sewers were repaired. Ditches receiving sewage at Seend, Hilperton Marsh, Semington Road, and Melksham Forest were cleansed.”

MERE.—“ The only stream of importance flows through the town of Mere. During the summer this stream was cleared of weed, etc., and inspected its whole length. No pollution by sewage was discovered. There was no change in the drainage in the district.”

PEWSEY.—“ There are 207 privies in the district and 2,247 pail closets. There is no public sewage disposal works, with the exception of that owned by the Military Authorities.”

RAMSBURY.—“ No part of the district is sewered, and pail closets and privies are used, except at the large houses where water carriage has been adopted.”

SALISBURY.—“ There is no sewerage system in any part of the district. Household slops and waste water are dealt with by means of cesspools. Solid excreta is dealt with by means of pail closets, earth closets, or privies with vaults.”

TETBURY.—“ The two small villages are provided with privies and pail closets.”

TISBURY.—“ The only sewerage systems in use in the district are those of Hindon and Tisbury. In the case of Hindon, alterations costing £70 were found necessary owing to the dilapidated condition of the precipitating chamber and variations in the levels of the main sewer. The sewer was relaid to give an adequate fall to the detritus chamber. Beyond this are placed four inspection chambers leading to a new clarifying tank from which the overflow passes into the subsoil through a series of sprays, and a good effluent is obtained. This improved system should suffice for the needs of Hindon for many years to come.

“ With regard to the Tisbury Works, it was pointed out in 1911 that although the three acres through which the sprays were laid had exceeded their estimated life and were still producing a clear effluent the soil must be nearing exhaustion. The land has served its purpose well for three years, and now at the end of the fourth year of service the effluent shows that the powers of the land in dealing with an increased quantity of sewage are temporarily coming to an end. The inclusion of another area of three acres is now advisable, and I am informed that this can be obtained for about £100.

WARMINSTER.—“ In no part of the district is there a public sewer. The disposal of sewage is that common to agricultural districts, and special care is called for in the draining away of waste water to avoid polluting the wells.”

WESTBURY.—“ The only stream of importance in this district is the River Biss, and cases of Anthrax have been occurring in close proximity to its banks. The Board of Agriculture have been approached by the Rural District Council on the matter, but have not yet received an answer.”

WILTON.—“ An enquiry was held in March by an Inspector of the Local Government Board as to the possibility of delivering the Wilton Urban Sewage to Bemerton by gravitation. He reported in favour of this scheme, and the work has since been carried out. The pumping station has been discontinued and no complaints of sewage pollution have been received since.

“ During the year 47 house drains have been laid or relaid, 25 additional w.c.'s have been provided, and 12 privies have been converted into pail closets. There are now approximately 580 w.c.'s with flushing cisterns, and 430 pail closets, while there are still about 1,000 vault privies left.”

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACTS, 1890-1909.

At the census of 1901 there were 61,758 families or separate occupiers in the County, whilst at the census of 1911 this number had increased to 66,603. In the 1911 census there were 1,503 tenements with more than two occupants per room embracing a population of 12,504. In 1901 the average number of persons per house was 4.46, whilst in 1911 it was 4.25. The Rural Districts of the County contribute most to overcrowding, the proportion of population in Wilts living more than two to a room is 58 per 1,000 in the Rural, against 30 per 1,000 in the Urban Districts.

According to a return received from the Sanitary Inspectors 270 houses were erected during the year, this again being a decrease over preceding years. Of this number 71 were erected in the Urban Districts, of which 36 were in Swindon, 8 in Chippenham, 6 each in Devizes and Westbury, Melksham and Trowbridge 4 each, Warminster 3, Wilton 2, and Bradford and Marlborough 1 each. The 199 new houses in the Rural Districts were distributed as follows :—Wilton 29, Melksham 20, Salisbury 18, Devizes 15, Amesbury 14, Warminster and Wilton 13 each, Cricklade and Mere 11 each, Chippenham nine, Highworth eight, Bradford, Malmesbury, Marlborough, Pewsey and Tisbury six each, and Calne and Ramsbury four each.

Building bye-laws are in operation in the majority of the Rural Districts, and these bye-laws cannot be said to have a prohibitive effect on building.

I have prepared the following table showing the amount of work done since the inception of the Act and the percentage still remaining to be examined, and particulars of the results of inspections and work done during the year 1912 :—

DISTRICTS.	Since Commencement of the Act.				For Period 1st January, 1912, to 31st December, 1912.										
	Total No. of houses under £16 rental.	Total No. of houses inspected under the Act	Total Number of Houses Remaining to be Inspected.	Percentage of Houses Inspected.	No. reported to Council as dangerous or unfit for occupation.	Total No. of houses actually closed without service of Formal Closing Orders under Sec. 17.	Total No. of houses in respect to which Closing Orders have been served.	Total No. of houses actually closed under such Orders.	Total No. of houses rendered fit for occupation after service of Closing Orders.	Total No. of houses rendered fit for occupation after Informal Notices.	Total No. of houses where Closing Orders have become operative, and are still awaiting repairs.	Total No. of houses for which "Demolition" Orders have been issued.	Total No. of houses actually "demolished" with or without Demolition Orders.	Total No. of houses for Working Classes completed or first occupied	Total No. of houses in course of erection but not completed
URBAN															
Bradford ...	1087	320	767	29.43	14	7	7	7	1	..	7	1	4	..	5
Calne ...	766	224	542	29.24	8	5	3	3	..	3	3	3	4	1	..
Chippenham ...	911	158	753	17.34	2	1	..	..	..	60	8	..	..	8	..
Devizes ...	1164	730	434	62.70	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	..	..
Malmesbury ...	667	380	287	56.97	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ...	617	379	238	61.42	12	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Melksham ...	564	141	423	25.00	1	..	..	..	..	11	..	..	..	4	..
Salisbury ...	3409	438	2971	12.84	28	..	9	9	..	9	..	..	15	..	..
Swindon ...	10833	524	10309	4.82	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	..	..	34	18
Trowbridge ...	2872	834	2038	29.03	25	4	20	20	1	2	13	..	9	4	4
Warminster ...	1168	350	818	29.96	13	..	13	11	..	24	..	..	..	3	3
Westbury ...	827	112	715	13.54	5	..	5	5	..	18	..	..	5	6	..
Wilton ...	481	264	217	54.88	3	1	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	2	4
RURAL															
Amesbury ...	1496	421	1075	28.14	1	1	..	..	..	125	..	..	1	14	3
Bradford ...	1088	507	581	46.59	3	1	5	4	..	108	4	1	2	6	..
Calne ...	1025	399	626	38.92	2	5	2	2	..	75	..	..	5	8	8
Chippenham ...	3688	144	3544	3.90	50	1	..	..	..	50	..	..	..	4	6
Cricklade ...	2295	730	1565	31.80	6	..	6	5	1	..	..	..	..	11	4
Devizes ...	2506	575	1931	22.94	8	..	8	5	3	113	8	..	5	15	21
Highworth ...	3217	1151	2066	35.77	6	2	4	4	4	2	..	..	..	7	..
Malmesbury ...	1576	611	965	38.76	7	2	7	7	..	1	7	..	2	5	2
Marlborough ...	975	470	505	48.20	25	2	3	..	3	11	..	..	2	..	4
Melksham ...	945	144	801	15.23	5	..	4	2	..	1	1	..	..	19	14
Mere ...	1097	180	917	16.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	8
Pewsey ...	2326	576	1750	24.76	1	..	1	..	1	12	..	..	..	6	1
Ramsbury ...	1765	426	1339	24.13	7	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	1
Salisbury ...	2142	430	1712	20.07	..	..	..	..	..	30	..	..	..	18	5
Westbury ...	75	33	12	84.00	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Wiltshire ...	1709	748	961	43.76	..	1	..	..	..	180	..	..	1	6	..
Warminster ...	1590	501	1089	31.50	12	1	6	5	..	4	1	..	..	4	..
Westbury ...	1633	296	1337	18.12	6	1	6	1	..	..	5	..	1	9	4
Wilton ...	1812	534	1278	29.47	4	2	4	2	..	..	3	..	..	28	7
URBAN DISTRICTS	25366	4854	20512	19.13	113	32	59	55	6	193	31	4	51	62	34
RURAL DISTRICTS	32960	8906	24054	27.02	143	20	56	37	12	714	29	1	20	167	88
COUNTY OF WILTS	58326	13760	44566	23.59	256	52	115	92	18	907	60	5	71	229	122

From this it will be seen that the percentage of houses examined since the Act came into operation is 23.59 : 19.13 per cent. in the Urban Districts and 27.02 in the Rural Districts.

In the Urban Districts Chippenham, Salisbury, Swindon, and Westbury are below the mean of the combined Urban District Rate. In the Rural Districts, Chippenham, Devizes, Melksham, Mere, Pewsey, Ramsbury, Salisbury, and Westbury are above the mean Combined Rural Rate.

I must again urge upon these Authorities the necessity of firmly instructing the officers designated to carry out the work of housing inspection, the urgent necessity for increased activity in this direction. Swindon Urban with 4.82 and Chippenham Rural with 3.90 per cent. of the total houses only examined, are the most laggard in the matter of housing inspection, and especially call for immediate and concentrated action. Improvement in the housing conditions is of paramount importance to public health, especially in the campaign against tuberculosis, and much more effort must be put into the work by the various Sanitary Authorities in the County.

It will be noted that 51 houses were demolished in the Urban Districts, and 20 in the Rural Districts, or 71 for the whole County. Two hundred and fifty-six houses were reported as dangerous or unfit for occupation in the County, viz., 113 in the Urban and 143 in the Rural Districts, but many of these were put in fit condition without service of closing orders. Ninety-two houses (55 Urban and 37 Rural) were actually closed after service of closing orders.

As mentioned in my last report, copies of representations and closing orders made still fail to be sent to the County Council in all but a few instances, and I would again urge Clerks of Rural District Councils to forward this information in accordance with the provisions of the Acts and Regulations.

On the 23rd May, 1912, W. H. Collin, Esq., an Inspector of the Local Government Board, held an enquiry at Potterne on complaint by inhabitant householders as to the failure of the Rural District Council to exercise their powers under Part III. of the Act of 1890. The Board, after consideration of the Inspector's report, came to the conclusion that a need existed for further working class dwellings in the parish. The Board informed the District Council of their conclusion, and pressed them to make provision for the erection of 12 cottages. Correspondence ensued, in the course of which it was stated that the County Asylum Committee had under their consideration the question of erecting a number of cottages for asylum employees then resident in the parish. It was also stated that a Dairy Company employing a large staff of workmen and clerks had decided to remove from a neighbouring town (Devizes) and the District Council alleged that this, by rendering vacant a number of houses in that town, would help to relieve the pressure at Potterne, where several persons working at Devizes lived. Finally the County Asylum Committee decided not to proceed further with their proposal to build cottages, and the Local Government Board thereupon requested the District Council to give immediate further consideration to the subject. A lengthy communication was subsequently received from the Chairman of the Parish Council requesting the Board to reconsider their decision in the matter and advancing various contentions, such as changes of conditions and circumstances since the date of the enquiry in support of the request. Although the Board had already allowed the District Council a considerable time in which to decide what steps they would take in the matter and were very anxious to avoid further delay, they felt that the circumstances necessitated their sending an Inspector to make an investigation into these contentions and generally of the present position of the parish as regards housing. As a result of that visit they informed the District Council that they were still of opinion that cottages should be provided, but the District Council do not concur in this view, and the course to be adopted is now under consideration.

CALNE RURAL DISTRICT.—In this case complaint was made by inhabitant householders in regard to housing accommodation in the parish of Bremhill. As a result of the formal enquiry which was held by one of the Inspectors of the Local Government Board, the Board informed the District Council that they felt no doubt that the District Council ought seriously to consider the question of themselves providing some additional cottages. Subsequently the District Council contended that the need was only of a temporary character, and that their Medical Officer of Health was of opinion that by reason of changed conditions since the date of the enquiry there was no need for further houses to be provided. A further visit by the Local Government Board Inspector tended to confirm the contention of the Council that conditions had improved since the date of the enquiry, and the Board consented to defer further consideration of the matter for three months, at the expiration of which period they requested to be furnished with a detailed report on the subject. This report when received indicated still further improvement in the housing conditions of the parish, and showed the existence of several empty and satisfactory working class dwellings. The Board forwarded a copy of this report to the complainants for their observations, and after some delay the Board were informed that the complainants had no remarks to offer on the subject. At the end of the year the Local Government Board Inspector was under instructions to make another visit to the locality, and as a result of consideration of his report they have since informed the parties interested that they are of opinion that there has been since the date of the complaint, and largely as a result of it, such an improvement in the housing conditions of the parish that they need not now declare the District Council to be in default.

Some Local Authorities still appear to be under the impression that inspection under Sec. 17 (1), is optional, to be carried out or neglected by them according to their own view of its necessity or desirability. The Local Government Board has drawn the attention of Authorities to the fact that the inspection is a statutory requirement under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, and that they had no power to waive compliance with the terms of the Sub-Section.

The Report of the President of the Local Government Board points out that it is an essential preliminary to any effort for the general improvement of Housing conditions, that those concerned should have as complete information as possible of the nature and extent of the problem to be dealt with. The setting of this matter on a definite basis under Sub-Section 1 of Section 17 has done much to awaken interest in the question generally. Under this Section, it is the duty of every Local Authority within the meaning of Part 2 of the Act of 1890, to cause to be made from time to time inspection of their district with a view to ascertain whether any dwelling house therein is in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation, and for that purpose it is also their duty, and that of their Officers, to comply with any Regulations, and keep any Records, which may be prescribed by the Local Government Board. Such Regulations were issued on the 2nd September, 1910, and were referred to in my Report for 1910. Article V. of the Regulations requires every Medical Officer of Health to include in his Annual Report information and particulars in tabular form in regard to :—

- (1) The number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 ;
- (2) The number of dwelling-houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ;
- (3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders ;
- (4) The number of Closing Orders made ;
- (5) The number of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders ;
- (6) The number of dwelling-houses which after the making of Closing Orders were put into a fit state for human habitation ; and
- (7) The general character of the defects found to exist.

The Board also require him to include any other information and particulars which he might consider desirable in regard to the work of inspection under the said section.

This obligation on the Medical Officer of Health was amplified by a general Order of the 13th December, 1910, prescribing the duties of provincial Medical Officers of Health, which by Article XIX. (14) (k), required every Medical Officer of Health to include in his annual report a statement with regard to the housing accommodation of the district as required by Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, and an account of any other action taken by the Council under the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909, bearing on the public health.

For the guidance of Medical Officers of Health in the preparation of their reports, a Memorandum is issued annually, and the following extract may be quoted from the Memorandum for the year 1912 :—

“ The report as to housing should comprise information as to the character and sufficiency
“ or otherwise of houses for the working classes in the district, and the condition and fitness
“ for habitation of such houses, together with particulars as to any cases of overcrowding which
“ have come under notice during the year, and the action taken in such cases.

“ Particulars should be added as to the number of new houses erected or in the course of
“ erection ; growth of working-class dwellings in relation to the growth of the population of
“ the district ; supervision over the construction of new houses, in relation to bye-laws.

“ The Local Government Board attach much importance to exact detail under this heading ;
“ and in the absence of sufficient information, a supplementary report is often required.”

Under the County Medical Officers of Health (Duties) Order, 1910, it is also the duty of a County Medical Officer of Health to devote a section of his Annual Report to the subject of the administration of the Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890 to 1909, within the County.

It will be seen that the Local Government Board has endeavoured to ensure that every Local Authority shall be presented by its Medical Officer with as complete a picture as may be of the state of housing within its district, and that each County Council shall be made aware of how matters stand in this respect within the County.

Copies of these Reports must be sent to the Local Government Board.

I append a summary of the comments of the District Medical Officers upon housing conditions in their respective districts.

Urban Districts.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“Eighty-seven houses were inspected, entailing 259 inspections. Fourteen have been reported as dangerous or unfit for occupation, 4 have been demolished, and 3 have been converted into offices. The old lodging house in Wine Street has been pulled down, and the road, which was very narrow there, widened 5 feet, and four new cottages are in course of erection. One house was built, and another is in course of erection. Even with the houses in course of erection there will still be a shortage of cottages suitable for labourers and the lower wage earners. Mechanics and the better class workmen are fairly well provided for. Five cases of overcrowding were reported and abated. Twelve houses are back to back, 7 of which are being negotiated for; these are to be pulled down and new ones erected by private enterprise.”

CALNE.—“One hundred and twenty inspections were made during the year. Eight houses were reported as dangerous or unfit for occupation. Various alterations and repairs have been found necessary, and these are in process of completion after service of informal notices. Houses are as a rule quite adequate for the classes which occupy them. There have been 2 cases of overcrowding—one dealt with by the Council, was remedied by removing to a larger house. The other case was dealt with informally, and was remedied by the conversion of an unused attic. One new house has been erected during the year, and no new houses are in course of erection.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“Twenty-five houses have been improved and made fit for habitation. Four cases of overcrowding have been abated. Twelve defective house drains were put in order, and in 20 instances new drains were laid. Six statutory notices were issued and complied with. Sixty-eight informal notices were served, and 60 have been complied with. One house was closed as unfit for habitation.”

DEVIZES.—“Three hundred and forty-seven houses were inspected, 90 of which were without through ventilation, 32 had only one bedroom, 192 had two bedrooms, 106 had three bedrooms, and 17 had four bedrooms. No actual closing order was issued, but 14 houses have been closed, and 2 of them demolished, owing to an intimation that orders would be applied for. Three of the oldest and worst courts in the town have been demolished. No new houses were built during the year. One hundred and ten notices to limewash and cleanse were given, 79 of which were complied with. Forty-five notices to make windows to open were issued, and 32 have been complied with. Five defective closets were reported, three of which have been repaired. Four notices to improve pathways leading to dwellings were issued, and 2 complied with. Four additional closets have been built.”

MALMESBURY.—“One hundred and sixty-two houses were inspected, two of which were reported as dangerous or unfit for occupation, and these have been rendered fit after informal notice. In many instances slight defects have been remedied without reporting to the Council.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“Two hundred and seventy-seven reports have been made during the year. These reports have resulted in 60 notices being sent to owners, and two Closing Orders have been made. In 5 instances houses have been put into good repair after inspection without a notice being served. Repairs have been promised, executed, or are in course of execution in 25 cases. In 40 cases nothing has yet been done. In 12 instances houses have been reported unfit for human habitation.”

MELKSHAM.—“The Housing Committee have agreed to purchase a 4-acre field at £162 10s. per acre. It is proposed to build 60 dwellings, thus going a long way to supply the demand. The site is an excellent one, and is close to the main sewer and water and gas mains. The land is in the Rural District, but adjoins the Urban boundary.

“Ninety-six houses were inspected during the year. No closing Order was made, but 11 cottages were repaired and improved in their sanitation. Four new houses were built.”

SALISBURY.—Two hundred and thirty-three houses were inspected under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1909. Twenty-eight of these were reported as unfit, 14 representations were made with a view to Closing Orders being issued, 13 Closing Orders were made, and in one instance defects were remedied without a Closing Order.

“A part of the poorer population live in houses in courts; this class of property is let at a low rental and so readily finds tenants; one court which had been closed as unfit for habitation has now been demolished. The rest of the working classes live in ordinary cottage property of four to six-roomed houses; the sanitary condition is as a rule good. There are open spaces all round this class of property, and no back-to-back houses exist, except in some of the courts mentioned. Thirty houses were erected during the year.”

SWINDON.—“Two hundred and eleven inspections were made under Section 17 of the 1909 Act. No houses were considered unfit for habitation, and no Closing Orders were made. Sixty houses were remedied without Closing Orders being issued.

“The amount of work done during the year is not satisfactory. In my report last year I drew attention to the necessity for an increase in the staff of the Health Department in order to cope with the continually increasing work of the Department. The Health Committee have the matter under consideration. The development of the town of Swindon has been phenomenally rapid and the provision of a class of house suitable for an artisan and labouring population has necessitated the building of large numbers of cottage dwellings. In the earlier days of the building boom, due attention was not paid to sanitary house construction. Concrete foundations and damp courses were neglected and omitted. Paved areas at the rear of cottages were inadequate, and inferior bricks were used to build ‘brick on edge’ walls. With this class of property a day of reckoning has come with the advent of the Housing and Town Planning Act, and owners of such property will no doubt demur about putting their houses in order, and complying with the demand for a high standard of sanitation. There is, however, a very large proportion of sound cottage property in the town, built under strict supervision and well planned. Not much building has been carried on in the Borough for the last few years, and at the present time the house accommodation is adequate to the needs of the population. We have no congested areas, and open spaces abound. Some day perhaps a gargantuan scheme of reconstruction will be planned in the business thoroughfares of the town and the old cottage properties which have been glorified into business houses on the same sites and with very little alteration, will be swept away, to the advantage of the town.”

TROWBRIDGE.—“Three hundred and eight houses were inspected, of which 25 were reported as unfit for occupation. Four houses were closed without Closing Orders being issued. Twenty Closing Orders were issued and 19 houses were closed under these Orders; and one house was rendered fit after service of Closing Order. Two houses were made fit after informal notice, and 9 houses were demolished with or without Demolition Orders.

“Property in the older parts of the town requires frequent supervision to see that it is kept in an adequate state of repair. Portions of such districts have been thereby considerably improved, but amelioration is still needed. Houses condemned include a considerable block of property in Shail’s Lane and Broad Street and some courts at the top of Timbrell Street. Some of these houses have been demolished by the owners; action regarding the remainder is still under consideration.

“There is a sufficiency of houses for artisans and labourers, and in the new parts of the town there is a due supply of open space about the houses. Some lack of sufficiency may be experienced during the ensuing year with the prospect of further industrial development. Only four new houses have been built during the year.

“Seven cases of overcrowding have been dealt with.”

WARMINSTER.—“Two hundred and twenty dwellings have been dealt with, 17 of which have been condemned as unfit for habitation, and Closing Orders issued. Numberless defects have been remedied, and a number of houses have been limewashed and cleansed. Only the very worst houses have been condemned, and several which are on the border line have been left, but wholesale condemnation is to be decried until more houses are available for the working classes. Three new houses have been erected, and three more are in course of construction.”

WESTBURY.—“One hundred and seven houses have been inspected during the year. There still remain about 700 to be examined. It is important that this work should be proceeded with more rapidly. Five houses were condemned as unfit for occupation, and have since been demolished.”

WILTON.—“One hundred and forty-seven houses were inspected. No house has been demolished or compulsorily closed, but the necessary repairs have in each case been ordered to be done. Two new houses were erected.”

Rural Districts.

AMESBURY.—“Two houses were reported as dangerous or unfit for occupation, and 1 house was closed without service of Closing Order. One hundred and twenty-five dwellings were rendered fit after informal notices, and 1 house has been demolished. Fourteen new houses were erected during the year, and 3 are in course of construction.”

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“Work has been carried on in four villages during the year, viz.,—Broughton Gifford, Limpley Stoke, South Wraxall, and Atworth. The number of houses brought before the Committee was 247, involving 481 inspections. Broughton Gifford and Limpley Stoke will be finished, i.e., all the orders made will have been carried out early in the new year, South Wraxall and Atworth will be finished before the year expires. A great deal of the work is done by informal notices, six houses having been rendered fit for occupation, and 102 minor defects remedied by these means. One reason more houses are not finished during the year, is, that as a rule there is only one man to a village capable of undertaking the work, and as all his neighbours wish him to do theirs, delay is caused in carrying out orders. This fact is recognised by the Committee appointed for this work by the Council, it being composed of representatives more or less in touch with the work being done, and the circumstances, financial and otherwise, of the property owners.

“With the exception of a certificate under Section 6 of the Public Health and Water Act, 1878, granted by the Council to newly-built houses, which certificate states that there is a proper water supply, there is no supervision by the Council over the erection of new ones. A motion in favour of having a few simple bye-laws for building and sanitary matters was brought before the Council, but unfortunately was lost. A great deal more than has been required by the Council has been done by the smaller owners; especially is this the case in Broughton, where houses have been enlarged, one or more rooms having been added to those already existing.

“No action has been taken under Parts I., II., or III. respectively of the Housing of the Working Classes Act.

“Six new houses have been erected, two villas and four good class cottages. There are not sufficient houses in the district for labourers and artisans, and as inspection is continued through each village more houses will be condemned as unfit for habitation and the shortage will increase. This is partly due to the impossibility of small cottage owners to keep their property in repair owing to want of funds; in many instances the rent from one or more cottages being the only means of livelihood these poor persons have. All houses should have distinctive names, or be numbered in every village, or in years to come a great deal of the work done at present will be almost valueless for reference. Had we bye-laws, this numbering, or naming, would, I hope, be one of them.

“Air space is ample about the houses, most of them having gardens in front and fields or gardens at the back. No houses are built back-to-back, and there is no overcrowding of houses in any given area.

“Eleven additional privies have been provided, and 53 have been converted into pail-closets.”

CALNE.—“Two houses were reported as dangerous for habitation and closing orders issued and carried out. Five houses were closed and demolished without service of formal orders. Seventy-five houses were rendered fit after service of informal orders. In all 189 inspections were made during the year. The accommodation is quite adequate. No case of overcrowding was reported. Eight houses were erected during this year, and several more are in course of construction. No bye-laws are in force, but no house can be occupied unless an adequate water supply is obtainable.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“Two hundred and twelve houses were reported upon during the year. Fifty houses were represented as being unfit or dangerous, but these defects were remedied without closing orders being issued.”

CRICKLADE.—“Eleven new houses have been erected during the past year, and all of these are of good class. Fifty-seven houses have been renovated and cleansed, and made more suitable for habitation. The work done under the Housing and Town Planning Act has gone steadily forward, and the following figures demonstrate clearly what has been done:—Three hundred and fifty-four houses have been inspected during the year, and it was necessary to close six of these as unfit for human habitation. Two of these were in Lydiard Millicent, three in Lydiard Tregoze, and one at Broad Town. Statutory notices (Form 2) had to be issued to the number of 222, in respect to the 354 inspections made. Two hundred and fifty-four reinspections were made by your Sanitary Inspector, and in nearly all cases it was found that where repairs had been ordered they had been carried out.”

DEVIZES.—“Five villages, Beechingstoke, Chirton, Marston, Patney, and Potterne, have been inspected in their entirety, records have been made of 383 houses, 138 notices have been served, the results are tabulated as in the case of last year. Five houses have been pulled down voluntarily. Closing Orders were applied for in eight instances. It was rare to find an empty house in any of the villages inspected. An enquiry was held at Potterne by an Inspector of the Local Government Board during the year as to the general condition of the housing in that village and the necessity for increased accommodation; the matter is still under consideration.”

HIGHWORTH.—“Eight houses were erected during the year and six were closed; of these five were pulled down. There are 1,716 cottages with three bedrooms, 1,305 with two, and 88 with only one bedroom each. The void houses in the District number 175.

“Stratton St. Margaret has 798 houses, Wroughton (including North Wroughton) 586, and Highworth 552. Rodbourne Cheney has 448 houses—30 houses only are found at Inglesham. Stratton St. Margaret and Stanton Fitzwarren have the largest number of persons per house, viz., 4·8; Blunsdon has the smallest number, viz., 3·5. The average for the whole district is 4·3 persons per inhabited house. In the semi-urban parishes of Stratton, Rodbourne Cheney and Wroughton, a large proportion of the houses are modern and of a good class of cottage property. In some of the purely rural part of the district there is a good deal of very old cottage property. It is, however, in a good state of repair, and sanitary, and not over-crowded. There are 3,216 houses in the rural area whose rental does not exceed £16 per annum, and which, therefore, come under the provisions of the Housing and Town Planning Act for inspection.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909	737
Number of dwelling-houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to making of closing orders	2
Number of closing orders made	2
Number of dwelling houses the defects of which were remedied without the making of closing orders	49
The number of dwelling-houses which after the making of closing orders were put in a fit state for human habitation	2

The general character of the defects found were leaky roofs, damp walls, defective floors, deficient ventilation, defective yard paving, filthy and dirty conditions of interiors.

Four houses were closed voluntarily and pulled down, and two new ones erected on the site.

“There is an abundance of open space round all houses in the District, with very few exceptions, and the surroundings are for the most part cleanly. Supervision over the erection of new houses is carried out by the Surveyor. Water certificates are given only on report of Medical Officer of Health.”

MALMESBURY.—“Two hundred and eighty-five houses have been inspected during the year. Closing orders were served on seven houses as being unfit for occupation and one house has been rendered fit for occupation after serving of the notice. Seven houses have been rendered fit after service of informal notices. In the majority of cases slight defects were remedied by landlords without the necessity of formal notices.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“One hundred and ninety-two houses were inspected during the year. Twenty-five were reported as dangerous or unfit for occupation; two were closed without actual service of closing order, and in three instances closing orders were served. These were rendered fit for occupation after service of closing orders. In 11 cases houses were rendered fit for occupation after service of informal notices, and two were actually demolished. The housing condition of the district can hardly be regarded as satisfactory, either as to sufficiency of accommodation, especially for large families, nor as to the class of houses, but the health of the occupants seems rarely to be affected by the insanitary conditions prevailing. Six new houses have been erected during the year, and four are in course of erection.”

MELKSHAM.—“Seventy-one houses were surveyed, and closing orders were made in four cases. On the whole the housing accommodation of the district is good. There are a few cottages in the last stage of decay, but as they are kept clean and occupied by old people whose only other refuge is the Workhouse I have left them alone for the present. There is a demand for houses in Melksham Without by workers in the Melksham factories, but this is being met by the building scheme of the Urban Council.”

MERE.—“I have heard no complaint of deficiency of housing accommodation in the district. As a rule the number of houses is ample for the population, but in some cases the cottages of the working class are very old, and lack the comforts and conveniences of modern houses. Eleven houses have been erected during the year, all of them a good type of workman's cottage. Two houses have been closed as unfit for habitation, four cases of overcrowding abated, and 19 houses have been cleansed and otherwise rendered more fit for habitation. Supervision has been exercised over the erection of new houses, and care taken to secure good foundations, proper damp-proof courses, etc.”

PEWSEY.—“Six houses have been erected, 12 made fit for habitation, and 5 closed as being unfit for human habitation. Fourteen cases of overcrowding were reported, and in 12 instances abated.”

RAMSBURY.—“Two special reports have been considered by the Council. Many of the cottages in the district are old and dilapidated, and some would be recommended to be closed only there is at present nowhere to rehouse the dispossessed tenants. A certain amount of overcrowding exists and cannot be abated for the same reason. Building of cottages has practically ceased as the erection of this class of property as a business proposition is no longer a lucrative form of investment. Two hundred and twenty houses have been reported as requiring repair. Only four new houses have been built. There is no doubt that in the absence of private enterprise it will be necessary in the near future to seriously consider the question of the provision of a certain number of cottages in the more congested areas. Two houses were closed during the year.”

SALISBURY.—“ The housing accommodation is fairly good ; there is a demand for new houses in some parts of the district. Building bye-laws have been adopted during the year. Two hundred and thirty-five houses have been inspected during the year. Three cases of overcrowding were reported and dealt with. Fifteen new bucket closets have been erected in connection with new houses.”

TISBURY.—“ At the Census of 1911 there were 1851 houses in the District, and during the year six new cottages have been built, all of them substantial, well built, roomy, and with good water supplies. One has been closed as unfit for habitation without demolition order, and a very great improvement has been effected in the condition of many of the older cottages. Of these, structural alterations have been made to 67, while 70 others have been cleansed and limewashed. Altogether the condition of cottage property is much better than it was, but there is still need for further improvement. There seems to be in Tisbury a demand for cottages at a moderate rental, as evidenced by the readiness with which any old one vacated or new one built finds a tenant.

“ Under the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1909 your Inspector, who is the officer appointed for the purpose, has inspected 257 additional cottages during the year. The actual number shown in the return is 492, and the difference is accounted for by the fact that many of them relate to houses that had been previously reported on and to which fresh visits were necessary. The total number of visits made was 764, and these figures will indicate the amount of work involved. It is satisfactory to be able to record that all the defects found, viz., 180, were remedied without the making of closing orders. Many of them were of a minor character, and in only one instance could it be said that the conditions were such that they were dangerous to health or that the house was unfit for human habitation. The number of houses inspected since the Act became operative is 616, and the total number under £16 rental in the District is said to be 1,709. It must, therefore, be a matter of some years before the remaining 1,100 can be inspected and a complete record made. Many of the cottages are old in type and can only be modernised at considerable and unremunerative expense, and in the absence of further accommodation it is not possible to do more than to improve existing conditions and property owners are generally very willing to carry out suggestions that are made.

“ The terms “ injurious to health and unfit for human habitation ” may have very wide interpretations, and in the absence of ample accommodation it is as impossible to condemn a borderland cottage as it is unreasonable to ask an owner to build a new one at a pecuniary loss.”

WARMINSTER.—“ The average number of persons per house is 3.76. The number of dwellings dealt with is 279. Twelve have been condemned as unfit for human habitation. They are, however, only the worst, many are on the border line, and nearly 200 defects have been remedied on informal notice. Twelve houses have been built during the year, eight of working class type, and four of the residential type.”

WESTBURY.—“ Two hundred and ninety-seven houses have been inspected, and in no less than 150 of these have notices been served on the owners to execute repairs. Fourteen closing orders have been issued, of which three have been pulled down, two have been altered and improved, two closed, and seven still remain to be dealt with. Eighty houses have been reinspected. The work entailed under the Housing Acts is very great in a scattered district like this, and to do it efficiently, and see that the repairs necessary are carried out, the services of a whole-time Inspector are required, if the inspection is to be completed in the course of the next two or three years. It is important that this work should be carried through as expeditiously as possible, as sanitary housing is bound to be of immense importance in the prevention of tuberculosis. Consequently I would urge on the Board the desirability of appointing a whole-time Inspector for this work.”

WILTON.—“ Inspection under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, continues, and during the year 350 houses were inspected by the appointed person. Four closing orders have been served and two houses have been closed. Two houses have also been closed without service of closing orders. Three closing orders have become operative, and these houses are awaiting repairs. Twenty-eight houses suitable for the working classes have been completed and seven are in course of erection.”

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDERS.

In every district in the County Regulations under the above orders are in operation, and considerable attention is directed to ensure the purity of our milk supply. A considerable quantity of milk is sent to London, and the powers given to the London County Council by their General Powers Act of 1907 is very great, and unremitting care has to be taken to see that the standard of purity is maintained.

I have prepared the following summary, giving the number of farms visited, number of cows examined, and the results of inspection, and it will be noted that of the 3,789 cows inspected, 58 or 1.53 per cent were certified as suffering from tubercular disease of the udder.

Date of Visit.	Locality.	No. of cows examined.	Remarks.
10th Jan., 1912	Sutton Mandeville	40	1 cow certified with Tuberculosis of the Udder
10th „ „	25 Farms supplying large Dairy Co. at Tisbury	684	5 cows „ „ „
10th „ „	Chicks Grove	32	1 cow „ „ „
11th „ „	Fifield Bavant	15	1 cow „ „ „
8th Feb., 1912	Lea	52	1 cow „ „ „
8th „ „	Purton	23	1 cow „ „ „
6th Mar., 1912	Salthorpe	23	No cows „ „ „
6th „ „	Blunsdon	42	1 cow „ „ „
8th „ „	Wardour	43	1 cow „ „ „
8th „ „	5 Farms supplying large Dairy Co. at Tisbury	130	3 cows „ „ „
13th „ „	Dinton	102	2 cows „ „ „
13th „ „	Porton	60	No cows „ „ „
26th „ „	Ogbourne St. George	124	No cows „ „ „
28th „ „	Draycot Foliat	68	2 cows „ „ „
3rd April 1912	Downton	75	1 cow „ „ „
4th „ „	Bulford	51	1 cow „ „ „
4th „ „	Christian Malford	36	1 cow „ „ „
9th „ „	Wilcot	105	No cows „ „ „
9th „ „	Wilcot	55	2 cows „ „ „
10th „ „	Heddington	28	No cows „ „ „
22nd „ „	Hannington	40	1 cow „ „ „
23rd „ „	Sevenhampton	59	1 cow „ „ „
24th „ „	Stowell	54	No cows „ „ „
24th „ „	Alton Priors	77	3 cows „ „ „

Date of Visit.	Locality.	No. of cows examined.	Remarks.
25th „ „	Bedwyn	85	3 cows certified with Tuberculosis of the Udder
7th May, 1912	Christian Malford	43	1 cow „ „ „
6th Oct., „	Mildenhall	56	3 cows „ „ „
10th „ „	Downton	32	1 cow „ „ „
11th „ „	Coate	62	1 cow „ „ „
11th „ „	Hannington	44	1 cow „ „ „
15th „ „	Coate	34	1 cow „ „ „
18th „ „	36 Farms supplying large Dairy Co. at Semley	967	10 cows „ „ „
23rd „ „	Shaftesbury	20	1 cow „ „ „
24th „ „	Amesbury	32	No cows „ „ „
29th „ „	Liddington	52	2 cows „ „ „
7th Nov. 1912	Marlborough	60	1 cow „ „ „
7th „ „	Burbage	60	No cows „ „ „
14th „ „	Dauntsey	45	1 cow „ „ „
15th „ „	Compton Chamberlayne	61	1 cow „ „ „
21st „ „	South Marston	57	1 cow „ „ „
23rd „ „	Christian Malford	61	1 cow „ „ „
	TOTALS ...	3789	58 cows certified with Tuberculosis of the Udder or 1.53 per cent. of the number examined.

The percentage of cows discovered to be suffering from tuberculosis of the udder is higher than in 1911, but Wilts still continues to compare favourably with other agricultural counties sending milk to London.

When a notification is received that a cow has a tubercular udder, the Sanitary Inspector of the district is communicated with, and the farmer is instructed to isolate the cow and cease sending the milk to London. The cow is usually dried off and sent to market and sold as a “barrener.” This unsatisfactory state of affairs will be remedied in 1913, when the new order of the Board of Agriculture comes into operation regarding Tuberculosis in any form.

On August 1st, 1912, the Local Government Board made an Order, under the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907, entitled the Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912, and designed to secure that no preservative shall be added to milk, or to cream, containing less than 35 per cent., by weight, of milk fat, at any stage from the place of production to that of delivery to the purchaser. In the case of cream containing more than 35 per cent., by weight of milk fat, the addition of boric acid, borax, or of hydrogen peroxide, is not absolutely prohibited, but the addition of preservative must be declared by a conspicuous label on the receptacle containing the preserved cream. The label must state either that it is “preserved cream containing boric acid not exceeding — per cent.,” or “preserved cream (peroxide)”; and when the capacity of the receptacle does not exceed 1 pint, the size of the label must be at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and when the capacity exceeds 1 pint, it must be at least 3 inches by 5 inches. Further, the addition of any thickening substance to cream or preserved cream is prohibited.

These Regulations apply to imported milk as well as to milk produced in this country. They are to be administered by those Authorities who are Local Authorities under the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act, and in the circular letter in which the Local Government Board brought the matter before the Local Authorities, it was pointed out that it will be desirable that the Medical Officer of Health should exercise general supervision over the action taken in pursuance of the Regulations, and that the Officer under the Council who directs sampling under the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act, should confer with the Medical Officer of Health and with the Public Analyst as to the details of procedure necessary to secure the observance of the Regulations in the area over which the Council had supervision.

By the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1912 (dated June 29th, 1912), the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries amended their Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901, in so far as they relate to skimmed or separated milk, by replacing the limit of 9 per cent. of total milk solids, on which under Article 3 of the Regulations of 1901, a presumption that the milk is not genuine is based, by a limit of 8·7 per cent. of milk solids other than milk fat. This they did in consequence of representations from Local Authorities of districts where there is a trade in skimmed and separated milk that considerable practical difficulties arise in instituting proceedings in cases in which water has been added to skimmed milk, but, owing to the fact that the milk has been imperfectly skimmed, the total solids have not fallen below 9 per cent. Thus a sample containing 1·5 per cent. of fat and 7·5 per cent. of milk solids other than milk fat would probably contain over 12 per cent. of added water, but the total solids are up to the limit of 9 per cent. The present Regulations are intended to obviate these difficulties, and to facilitate the prevention of the adulteration of skimmed milk with water.

With regard to the working of the Dairies, etc. Orders in the County, I have prepared the following summaries showing the amount of work carried out in the Combined Urban and Rural Districts :—

				URBAN DISTRICTS.														
				Bradford-on-Avon	Calne	Chippenham	Devizes	Malmesbury	Marlborough	Melksham	Salisbury	Swindon	Trowbridge	Warminster	Westbury	Wilton	TOTAL	
DAIRIES & COWSHEDS ORDERS. Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk, Milk Sellers.	No. in District			16	2	9	5	4	4	9	36	76	41	24	13	6	245	
	No. Registered			16	..	9	5	4	5	9	36	76	41	24	13	6	244	
	No. of Inspections of Premises ..			34	..	4	20	15	..	36	152	143	196	60	13	21	694	
	No. of Inspections during Milking-time			1	..	..	..	9	..	23	..	..	62	15	2	10	122
	No. of Premises requiring White-washing, Cleaning, &c. ..			5	..	4	..	2	..	2	12	76	14	6	3	6	130	
	No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out			5	..	4	..	2	..	..	12	76	14	6	3	6	128
	No. of Premises requiring Structural or Sanitary Improvements			3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	..	..	2	13
	No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out			3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	2	10
	No. of			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	9	4	..	..	1	50
	No. of, from which water analysed			..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Premises with Well Water Supply.	Results of Analyses. { Good .. ..			..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	6	
	{ Passable .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	
	{ Condemned .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk, (Butter and Cheese Makers).				No. in District	2	..	5	4	5	9	1	..	2	6	34
				No. Inspection of Premises	5	..	40	15	..	36	12	..	2	21	131

RURAL DISTRICTS.				Amesbury.	Bradford-on-Avon	Calne.	Chippenham.	Cricklade and Wootton Bassett.	Devizes.	Highworth.	Malmesbury.	Marlborough.	Melksham.	Mere.	Pewsey.	Ramsbury.	Salisbury.	Tisbury.	Warminster.	Westbury and Whorwellsdown.	Wilton.	Tetbury (Wilts Portion)	TOTAL
No. in District	..	..	..	31	101	..	..	..	223	191	..	54	..	68	..	40	100	118	146	118	112	7	1309
No. Registered	..	..	..	26	100	..	20	229	192	177	107	47	87	68	141	40	98	118	66	118	112	7	1753
No. of Inspections of Premises	..	..	..	45	72	..	157	163	223	362	103	188	87	52	141	95	120	147	250	40	340	22	2607
No. of Inspections during Milking-time	..	..	..	17	5	..	72	..	8	31	..	..	10	21	..	..	62	9	21	..	120	1	377
No. of Premises requiring White-washing, Cleaning &c.	..	..	..	4	9	..	18	..	215	25	7	8	37	24	282	8	5	30	150	..	7	2	831
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out..	..	..	..	4	9	..	26	..	212	25	7	8	32	24	..	8	5	20	150	..	7	2	539
No. of Premises requiring Structural or Sanitary Improvements	..	..	..	..	2	..	6	..	3	5	..	1	2	3	..	3	6	10	3	..	2	..	46
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out..	..	..	..	..	5	..	21	32	3	5	7	1	1	3	..	1	4	6	3	..	2	..	94
No. of	..	..	..	..	87	..	..	190	157	5	..	25	..	..	..	35	67	..	89	..	..	4	659
No. of, from which water analysed	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	6	..	11
Results of Analyses.	Good ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4
	Passable ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Condemned ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	2	..	6
No. in District	..	..	..	2	116	87	..	46	..	20	9	53	..	68	..	1	..	45	146	118	..	..	711
No. Inspection of Premises..	..	..	..	2	72	..	..	13	..	24	130	212	..	52	141	1	..	45	250	40	..	..	982

The following is a summary of the comments of the District Medical Officers of Health.

Urban Districts.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“ There are 8 wholesale and 8 retail milk producers in the district, the former sending their milk to the various milk factories outside the district. In addition, 2 farmers from outside send their milk in to the town for retail sale. All the premises have been inspected by the Medical Officer of Health, or the Inspector of Nuisances, and in 5 cases whitewashing was required, and in 3 structural alterations, all of which were complied with. The district is free from bad sheds. Fourteen out of the 16 farms in the area have the Town Water laid on, as have also 3 milk shops, which are well kept, great care being taken with the milk. During the year no action has been taken with regard to Tuberculous milk, and no farmer has caused any cows to be examined by a Veterinary Surgeon.”

CALNE.—“ The milk supplied by the various milk sellers in the town is of a good and wholesome quality. The cans, etc., in which it is conveyed for sale, are kept clean and in good order.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“ There are 9 milk sellers registered. The milk is in most cases brought into the town in cans from various farms. All the dairies within the Urban District use the Town Water Supply for dairy purposes. The Medical Officer of Health in his inspections, inquired into the quality of water used for dairy purposes in the country dairies sending milk to Chippenham, and found that in some cases it was exposed to pollutions from defective drains, and in others from the runnings from manure heaped up in yards during the winter months.”

DEVIZES.—“ The Dairies are clean and well kept. The number of Cowsheds remains at 5, and with one exception they have the town water supply laid on. The milk from these is practically entirely used for the retail supply of the town”

MALMESBURY.—“ There are 4 Dairies on the register, and 15 visits of inspection were paid, 9 of which were during milking time. In two cases whitewashing was required, and in both instances complied with.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“ There are 5 milk vendors in the Borough, one of whom has a Milkshop. One milk vendor, who is unregistered, comes into the town from outside. Though his premises are not in the Borough he should be registered. The Medical Officer of Health received no complaints regarding the conditions of the Cowsheds during the year.”

MELKSHAM.—“ Nine premises are registered, and were inspected at least four times a year, and in addition surprise visits were made during milking hours. The Cowsheds are limewashed twice a year. The premises and utensils of milk retailers were kept under observation, and generally found satisfactory.”

SALISBURY.—“ The names of 36 milk vendors are on the Register ; 152 inspections were made, and no nuisance was found on the premises. Limewashing was carried out as required by the Regulations made under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order. Inspections were made of the Cowsheds to ascertain at the time of milking as to the cleanliness of the cows' udders and teats and the hands of the milkers, and no cause for complaint was found. In most cases the milkers were provided with white overalls or aprons, also a towel, soap, and bucket of clean water.

“ An extensive outbreak of Cow Pox in a large Dairy was investigated which affected the milkers as well as the cows ; the milk was not sold for ordinary consumption till the disease was at an end.”

SWINDON.—“ There are 15 Dairy Farms and Cowsheds in the Borough Area, milking 365 cows, the milk of 200 of which goes to London, and the milk of 165 is sold locally. Milk produced in the Rural Area which is sold in Swindon is of good quality and produced amid sanitary surroundings. Only one supply comes into the town, from a Company having headquarters at Bristol. A register is kept of the sources of supply of each dairyman selling milk in the town. There are 70 Dairies and Milkshops registered for the sale of milk—seven additions to the register having been made during the year. These are frequently inspected, and every care is taken to prevent any contamination of the milk by unwholesome surroundings. Fourteen notices to limewash were served during the year. The Swindon Corporation Act of 1904 confers certain powers on the Local Authority to deal with Tuberculosis in Dairies and Cattle within and also without the Borough. It was decided to put certain Sections of the Act in force, but it was afterwards thought best that procedure should be postponed until the new order becomes operative in May of the current year.”

TROWBRIDGE.—“ There are 41 Dairies and Cowsheds in the district, and are regularly visited by the Inspector of Nuisances, and from time to time by the Medical Officer of Health. One hundred and ninety-six visits of inspection have been made, and 38 notices served as regards need of limewashing, accumulation of manure, etc. In three instances structural alterations have been called for. During the year no specific action has been taken with regard to Tuberculous milk.”

WARMINSTER.—“ The Dairies and Cowsheds, 24 in number, have been inspected, and the regulations enforced. Sixty inspections were made, 15 of which were during milking time. Six premises required whitewashing and cleansing.”

WESTBURY.—“ The whole of the Dairies and Cowsheds have been regularly inspected, and their condition found to be satisfactory. There is a good supply of wholesome milk, a considerable amount of which is exported from the district.”

WILTON.—“ There are six Dairies registered in the Borough, in all of which the requirements of the Sanitary Authority were carried out. During milking time 10 visits of inspection were paid ; in all, the Inspector made 21 visits. In two cases structural repairs which were necessary were carried out. In one Dairy the water is supplied from a well, the water of which proved satisfactory upon examination.”

Rural Districts.

AMESBURY.—“ There are 31 Dairies and Cowsheds in the district, 26 of which are registered. The premises were inspected 45 times during the year, 17 of which were during milking hours. In 4 cases whitewashing, cleansing, etc., was required, and in each case the requirements of the Sanitary Authority were carried out.”

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—“ There are 101 purveyors of milk, dairymen, and cowkeepers in the district, 100 of whom are registered. In nine instances verbal requests for whitewashing were given, and in each case complied with. The large bulk of the milk is sent to Milk Distributing Companies, who send most of the milk to London, or the large towns in the provinces. There are no milk shops in the area, the milk retailed being taken directly from the farm to the consumer. Two farms were in a very bad condition, but one of them has changed ownership, and has been thoroughly renovated, the sheds have been well floored and drained, and a pond in the yard cleaned out, and the water carefully preserved from contamination.”

CALNE.—“ The several dairies which send milk into Calne for sale have been inspected and found to be satisfactory. The milk produced at the other dairy farms of the district is sent either to local Milk Factories or to London. All have been inspected by the Medical Officer of Health or Inspector of Nuisances during the year. There is a great necessity for better ventilation and lighting of the sheds during the months whilst the cows are kept in them, and it is to be hoped that this will be provided. The cowsheds and cowyards are kept clean and tidy.”

CHIPPENHAM.—“ There are 17 retailers of milk registered, and the premises of all have been inspected by the Medical Officer of Health. The milk is good in quality and carefully treated before sale. The Medical Officer of Health found the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops in good order, and clean for the most part. A large amount of milk is dealt with by two Companies, both of whom employ their own Inspector to visit the farms which supply the Company with milk. Some considerable quantity of milk is sent to London for retail purposes. The premises of both Companies are kept in good order, both are supplied by the Town Water, and they have also wells of their own. One hundred and fifty-nine farms or premises have been inspected by the Inspector and registered, a copy of the Rules regulating the management of Dairies has also been issued to each seller of milk.”

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT.—“ Two hundred and twenty-nine Dairies and Cowsheds are registered, an increase of 16 on the number for the preceding year. Inspections have been carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Inspector of Nuisances during the year. Notices for limewashing the premises were served on all of these, and in 32 cases this year, special requirements brought before the Owners or Tenants by the Sanitary Authority were carried out.”

DEVIZES.—“ There are 223 Dairies and Cowsheds in the district, of which 192 are registered. All have been inspected by the Inspector of Nuisances, and a great many by the Medical Officer of Health. They are of all grades from some quite good and modern, to others old, dirty, and insanitary; there is, however, a general improvement to their condition some years ago.”

HIGHWORTH.—“ There are 191 Dairies and Cowsheds in the district, an increase of one since last year, 177 of which are registered. All have been inspected during the year, and eight visits have been paid during milking hours. One hundred and fourteen farms milking 4,345 cows, market milk to London; Swindon receives the milk of 571 cows from 30 farms; Chippenham and Reading also receive small supplies. The total number of farms in the district is 191, milking 5,586 cows. With regard to the water used for cooling milk and dairy purposes, 32 farms have water laid on from the public water mains; 54 are supplied with spring water laid on from local springs properly protected; and 101 farms are supplied from wells on the farm premises. The Medical Officer of Health is of opinion that the water drawn from these wells is all of good quality. With regard to water supplies for yards and cattle, 22 farms use public water supplies; 59 have water from springs laid on; 41 use well water; and 58 are supplied by rivers, canal, and ponds.”

MALMESBURY.—“ There are 107 dairies and cowsheds registered in the district, and during the year under review, seven were cleaned and limewashed by order of the Sanitary Authority. Many of the cowsheds have been much improved during the year.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“There are 54 dairies and cowsheds in the district, and are each inspected four times a year. In one case structural alterations were required, and complied with, and in eight instances cleansing and limewashing was required, and was done in each case.”

MELKSHAM.—“There are 87 dairies and cowsheds on the register. Upon inspection five were found defective, in regard to drainage and flooring. In 37 cases limewashing had been neglected. Most of the premises are supplied with water from wells or springs, and a few have the Company's water laid on. Some of the yards were very foul with immense collections of filth and filthy ponds. The yard surfaces in a number of cases are irregular and uneven, rendering proper cleansing impossible. In many cowsheds wood is largely used in their construction, which is undesirable, as it is absorbent and quickly becomes foul. The dress of the milkers still leaves much to be desired in the way of cleanliness.”

MERE.—“There are 68 premises registered under the Dairies and Cowsheds Order, and 52 have been inspected during the year, 21 visits being paid during milking time. In 25 cases cleansing and whitewashing was ordered, and in every case carried out. There has been no action taken as to tuberculous milk, and the milk sold in this district is wholesome and of good quality.”

PEWSEY.—“There are 147 dairies and cowsheds on the register, and all were inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.”

RAMSBURY.—“There are 40 Cowsheds, 21 Dairies, and 24 Milkshops in the district. It is pleasing to be able to record that the progressive improvement noted during the past few years has been maintained, and the way these premises are kept compare favourably with other districts. No tuberculous cows were reported.”

SALISBURY.—“There are 100 dairies and cowsheds in the district, 98 of which are registered. One hundred and sixty inspections have been paid during the past year, 62 during milking hours. In six instances structural alterations were required.”

TETBURY.—“The seven Dairies and Cowsheds have been inspected on 22 occasions, and two have received notices to cleanse and whitewash.”

TISBURY.—“The number of Dairymen, Cowkeepers, and Purveyors of Milk on the Register is 118, and of Butter and Cheesemakers 45, a total of 163. All the premises have been inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and a number by the Medical Officer of Health, who is satisfied that a general improvement in the conditions under which the milk is despatched and produced has taken place. The Cowsheds and cows are usually clean and well kept. In connection with the inspection of Dairies and Cowsheds, 192 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspector. Thirty premises needed limewashing, and by the end of the year 20 notices had been complied with. Structural improvements were found necessary in 10 cases, and in six of them the alterations were effected. A better standard of purity has been obtained in the conditions under which the milk is produced, due to the increased vigilance of Public Authorities, and a better recognition of the fact that the interests of the producer and consumer are identical.”

WARMINSTER.—“The Dairies and Cowsheds are regularly inspected. The Sanitary Inspector visits the premises systematically, and reports on any irregularity, with the result that a higher standard of cleanliness is maintained.”

WESTBURY.—“There is still room for improvement in cleanliness, both in the Cowsheds, and in the process of milking, to ensure the Milk Supply being absolutely pure. A detailed inspection of the 118 cowsheds registered is now being carried out. A considerable quantity of the milk is sent to the large towns daily.”

WILTON.—“The Dairies and Cowsheds registered in the district number 112. Notices to cleanse and whitewash seven were served, and in two cases to make also certain structural alterations and improvements. The water from six Dairies was analysed, and in two cases found to be below the standard required for washing dairy utensils. The Bye-laws regulating Dairies and Milkshops are enforced, and the Sanitary Inspector paid over 100 visits of inspection during the time of milking. One notification of a cow with a tuberculous udder was received from the London County Council, and the Dairy was visited, and the cow isolated and dried off. During the process of drying off the milk was boiled and used for lambs.”

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.

The inspection of midwives, their bags, appliances, etc., is carried out personally by the County Medical Officer of Health, as a temporary measure from year to year, and reports are made regularly to the Midwives Committee regarding breaches of rules, misconduct, etc. The work entails a considerable amount of travelling and expenditure of time.

Since the passing of the Act 422 women have been entered on the County Roll as having practised in Wilts, viz., 174 women who were in practice before the passing of the Act, and 248 women who have passed the examination of the Central Midwives Board or other qualifying bodies. A large number of these women have left the county, others have ceased to practise, and others have been removed from the Roll of the Central Midwives Board.

In accordance with Section 10 of the Act, 202 midwives have given notice of their intention to practise during the year ; of these, 113 were women who have passed the examination of the Central Midwives Board, and 89 were bona fide midwives in practice in July, 1901. In my report for last year I gave a table of parishes from which notifications of intention to practise were received, but as this has altered but slightly, I do not think it necessary to again insert the table in this report.

Since the passing of the Act 20 midwives have been removed from the Roll of the Central Midwives Board for breaches of the regulations, misconduct, or inability to comply with the rules. They were as follows :—

E.J.B.	Wilcot.	E.W.	Melksham.	M.B.	North Bradley.
E.S.	Swindon.	E.G.	Potterne.	E.D.	Melksham.
R.A.T.	Haydon Wick.	A.F.	Warminster.	E.C.	Ditchampton.
A.L.	Calne.	E.B.	Warminster.	E.D.	Bradford.
C.M.A.	Mere.	M.E.I.	Netherhampton.	E.A.	Swindon.
M.H.	Corsham.	A.S.	Devizes.	S.J.E.	Worton.
M.C.	Quemerford.	E.J.B.	Wootton Bassett.		

I have again circularised the whole of the Midwives in the County, asking for a return of work done during the year, and have received replies from 205 women, viz., 96 bona fide Midwives in private practice, 17 trained nurses working on their own account, 13 nurses working for the Corsham Emergency Association, and 79 working for District Associations throughout the County.

There were 5,980 living births registered in the County during the year, and of these 3,009, or 50·31 per cent. were attended by midwives who had sole charge of delivery. In addition midwives attended 713 maternity cases, or cases undertaken in conjunction with a doctor.

There were 96 bona-fide midwives practising during the year, and between them they attended 1,560 midwifery cases, or an average of 16·24 cases per annum each. In addition to the actual midwifery cases they attended 303 maternity cases. The highest number of cases attended by bona-fide midwives during the year were as follows :—Swindon, 132 ; Salisbury, 112 ; Swindon, 97 ; Trowbridge, 79 ; Salisbury, 70. The highest number of maternity cases was 29, in the practice of a Swindon midwife.

The 17 non-Association trained midwives between them attended 318 midwifery cases, or an average of 16·64 cases per annum. These women also attended between them 53 maternity cases during the year, the greatest number of maternity cases being attended by a midwife at Trowbridge, viz., 7. The greatest number of cases occurred in the practice of midwives at Chippenham, 80 ; Trowbridge, 53 ; and Swindon, 23.

There are 79 trained nurses working in connection with District Association or Committees in the County, and these between them attended 1,094 cases, or an average of 13·83 per annum. Three hundred and forty-four maternity cases were attended by these midwives. These Association Nurses also undertake general nursing as well as maternity work.

In addition to the District Nurses mentioned above, there were 13 nurses working for the Corsham Emergency, and they attended 72 cases between them, or an average of 5·53 cases per annum each. It should be mentioned, however, that this Association also undertakes sick visiting and nursing in different parts of the county.

The trained midwives and pupils in the Training Home, Swindon, between them attended 208 midwifery and 37 maternity cases. These figures are included in the number of cases attended by trained nurses working for Associations, and naturally increases their average rate considerably.

During the year we received notices in accordance with the Regulations of the Central Midwives Board as follows :—

No. of cases of sending for medical help	..	..	..	..	177
No. of notifications of Births	..	..	..	..	184
No. of Still Births	..	..	..	..	54
No. of deaths of mothers or children	..	..	..	..	10
No. of notification of "laying out the dead"	..	..	..	..	46
					<hr/> 471

The trained nurses send in the greater number of notifications of sending for medical help, but this is open to two interpretations as I stated in my last report, viz., that trained women recognise impending trouble earlier than the bona fides, or that the bona fides, with their ripened experience, are more reliant on themselves.

The notifications of births and temperature charts are in the majority of instances sent by women who for some slight breach of the regulations are under constant supervision.

Several reports were received during the year of women illegally practising, but as I have explained before, there is considerable difficulty in amassing sufficient evidence to bring these women before the Magistrates and ask for a conviction. The women they attend are most reluctant to give information, and even with the assistance of the police I have not been able to obtain enough evidence to justify a prosecution.

During the year there was occasion for bringing one woman at Quemerford before the Penal Department of the Central Midwives Board. The Board, after hearing the evidence I was able to collect, resolved to remove the midwife's name from the Roll.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Fifteen cases of Puerperal Fever were notified to District Medical Officers, with 4 deaths resulting. In 1911 the number was 15, with 5 deaths. The cases this year were distributed as follows :—Two cases, with 1 death in the Urban Districts ; and 13 cases, with 3 deaths in the Rural Districts.

The cases in the Urban Districts were at Salisbury and Swindon. In both instances the cases occurred in the practice of bona fide women and the Swindon case died. No blame could be attributed to the midwives.

The cases in the Rural Districts were distributed as follows :—Amesbury, 2, with 1 death ; Calne, 1, with death ; Devizes, 1 ; Malmesbury, 1 ; Marlborough, 3, with 1 death ; Mere, 1 ; Tisbury, 2 ; Warminster, 1 ; and Wilton, 1.

The following is a brief history of the cases :—

AMESBURY.—“ One case was reported from Winterbourne Stoke, which was under the charge of a medical man. The other case which ended fatally, occurred in the practice of a bona fide midwife at Shrewton.”

CALNE.—“ The fatal case occurred at Charlcutt, Calne, and the delivery was under the charge of a medical man, but a midwife was called in to nurse the patient.”

DEVIZES.—“ One case occurred at Chirton, where the delivery was conducted by a medical man with an emergency midwife in attendance. The nurse gave us no notification of the case, and her conduct of the case was not satisfactory. Disinfection was carried out.

MALMESBURY.—“ One case reported from Hankerton. Patient had engaged a medical man, but her mother conducted the delivery. Portion of placenta retained, and fever supervened. Patient was treated in the Hospital at Malmesbury.”

MARLBOROUGH.—“ Three cases notified, with one death. The fatal case occurred at Ogbourne St. Andrew, and was probably connected with an outbreak of Scarlet Fever that was in the village at the time of confinement. A medical practitioner had charge of the delivery.”

MERE.—“ One case of Puerperal Peritonitis at Maiden Bradley. A trained woman had charge of the delivery, but was in no way to blame for the disease, as the mischief was probably due to the dirty condition of the house and defective drains.”

TISBURY.—“ Two cases occurred. In one the patient was confined, and was apparently well until the 15th day, when the temperature rose. This was followed by foul discharge and thrombosis of the femoral vein. Recovery was protracted but complete. In the other instance a low degree of infection followed delivery, and the case was not serious.”

WARMINSTER.—“ One case occurred at Upton Lovel. The delivery being a complex one, the trained midwife called in a medical man, who delivered instrumentally. The infection was acute, but recovery followed.”

WILTON.—“ One case occurred at Quidhampton in the practice of a woman not on the register. It was an emergency case, and the patient made a complete recovery.”

SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACT.

During the year 1912, 262 samples were submitted to the County Analyst by the Inspectors. Of these, 12 were adulterated, deficient, or otherwise of such quality or composition as to call for special mention. There was a considerable increase in the number of samples examined over that of the preceding year, but the number of adulterated samples remains at the same figure.

Substances Submitted.	Samples Analysed.	Samples Adulterated.	Substances Submitted.	Samples Analysed.	Samples Adulterated.
Arrowroot ...	1	—	Margarine ...	10	—
Brawn ...	1	—	Milk ...	67	4
Bread ...	1	—	Olive Oil ...	3	—
Butter ...	47	2	Peas, Dried ...	1	—
Cheese ...	19	—	Peas, Green ...	2	—
Chocolate ...	1	1	Pepper ...	6	—
Citrate of Magnesia ...	1	1	Rice ...	6	—
Cocoa ...	11	1	Sausages, Pork ...	2	2
Corn Flour ...	2	—	Soda, Bicarbonate of ...	2	—
Custard Powder ...	4	—	Suet, Beef ...	1	1
Flour ...	8	—	Sweets ...	3	—
Flour, Self-Raising ...	10	—	Tapioca ...	2	—
Ginger, Ground ...	2	—	Tartaric Acid ...	5	—
Ginger, Preserved ...	1	—	Tartar, Cream of ...	1	—
Glycerine ...	1	—	Vinegar ...	2	—
Honey ...	1	—	Whisky ...	7	—
Jam ...	4	—			
Lard ...	26	—			
Linseed Meal ...	1	—			
			Total ...	262	12

Of the above 12 cases, prosecutions were instituted in 6 instances, resulting in 5 convictions being obtained, and one case dismissed. Of the remaining 6, a caution was administered by the Sub-Committee in 5 instances, whilst the 12th sample was sold with a label stating that it was an admixture.

The work under the Foods and Drugs Act is carried out by the Inspectors of Weights and Measures, of whom there are two, one, Mr. Keating, taking the Northern portion of the County, comprising an area of 422,043 acres, and a population of 149,448, whilst the other, Mr. Nelson, takes the Southern portion, embracing an area of 442,062 acres, and a population of 136,081.

Sub-Committees consisting of all the Members of the General Purposes Committee living in the Northern and Southern Areas respectively, are appointed, and these receive the reports of the Inspectors, and direct prosecutions where necessary. The work of this Department is in no way under the supervision of the County Medical Officer. The Public Analyst is Dr. Bernard Dyer, 13, Great Tower Street, London.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD INQUIRIES.

In accordance with the terms of my appointment I attend these Inquiries on behalf of the Council. They generally relate to questions of water supply, sewage disposal, and hospital construction. Many of the schemes closely affect the question of river pollution. I have been able in a number of instances to render valuable assistance to the Local Government Board Inspectors with reference to vital statistics, local information, etc.

Among the Inquiries held during the year 1912, were :—

19th March, 1912	..	£1,500	..	Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the Borough of Wilton.
23rd May, 1912	..	—	..	Housing Accommodation in the Parish of Potterne.
20th December, 1912	..	£16,000	..	Extension and Improvement of Sewage Disposal Works at Trowbridge.

SANITARY LEGISLATION.

The past year has been more barren than usual as regards sanitary and local government legislation. Looking down the short list of Bills which have received the Royal Assent, there is not one to be found of exclusive or general sanitary importance, and amongst those which are still passing through their Parliamentary stages there are very few of first-class importance.

The Bill which was promised some years ago to deal with the Pollution of Rivers, and to set up Rivers Boards on the lines recommended by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal, has not yet been laid before Parliament. In the meantime the uncertainty as to the direction which legislation will take to deal with this important matter hampers Local Authorities in enforcing the existing Law, and enables Manufacturers, with some show of reason, to plead that it is unfair to expect them to erect, for the purification of their trade effluents, costly works which before long may be rendered superfluous by legislation on other lines. Meanwhile, also, there continues the danger to health which attends the consumption of Oysters and other Shell-fish from layings in polluted waters.

The Rag Flock Act, 1911, which came into operation on July 1st, 1912, required that the Local Government Board should make regulations prescribing the standard of cleanliness with which "flock manufactured from rags" must now conform before sale, or use for making articles of "upholstery, cushions, or bedding." These regulations were issued on June 8th, 1912, and provide that "flock shall be deemed to conform to the standard of cleanliness for the purposes of Sub-Section (1) of Section 1 of the Act when the amount of soluble Chlorine in the form of Chlorides removed by thorough washing with distilled water at a temperature not exceeding 25° Cent., from not less than 40 grammes of a well-mixed sample of flock, does not exceed 30 parts of Chlorine in 100,000 parts of the flock." It devolves upon Sanitary Authorities to see that the Law is enforced.

LABORATORY.

A very large number of samples of water and sewage effluents were analysed for the subject of my reports and a number of samples were analysed for various District Councils, the fees being paid to the County Treasurer. I examined a number of specimens for Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, and Anthrax during my personal investigations of various outbreaks of Infectious Disease, but owing to the absence of assistance we have not been able to undertake the work for the Isolation Hospitals, Medical Officers of Health, and private practitioners.

The new Insurance Act and the Tuberculosis Regulations have shown the urgent necessity for the provision of Laboratory Assistance. The Laboratory work in connection with the Tuberculosis Dispensaries has to be sent away to London, the Tuberculosis Officer not having time for the work in addition to his attendance at the Dispensaries and visiting Patients at their homes in practically every district in the County. The Report of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal points further to the necessity for extensive Laboratory work.

CONCLUSION.

I regret the unavoidable delay in presenting this Report ; if the District Medical Officers of Health presented their Reports in reasonable time there should be no difficulty in getting out my Annual Report by the May Meeting of the Council or at the latest the August Meeting. The object of the Report is largely defeated by the delay, and much of the matter has become ancient history before the Council has time to deal with it. Further, the work has to be done by me at a period of the year when I am more than fully occupied with other work, and the character of the Report suffers in consequence, as I am only able to devote such time as I can spare in the intervals of other work, and I am prevented from taking my well-earned holiday during the time when the other officers of the Council are enjoying theirs. My time was very fully occupied during the year and I was unable to obtain any holiday in 1912. New duties are continually being cast upon my Department and my limited staff is only able to cope with the increased clerical work by frequently working overtime.

The most cordial relations continue to exist between the district sanitary officials and my Department, and I desire to again express my thanks both to them and to your Committee for the help and consideration I have received in the discharge of my duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN TUBB-THOMAS.

County Medical Officer of Health.

6th September, 1913.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION
of URBAN and
RURAL DISTRICTS.

PART II.

URBAN DISTRICTS.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—W. J. A. ADYE, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—R. B. LEES, A.R.S.I., BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

AREA 1,990 ACRES.

Population—Males	2085	..	(Census 1911)	4501	Estimated (1912)	4500
Females	2416	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	1166		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	3.86		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	19.33	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	12.22	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	45.97	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.44	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	2.44	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.66	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.33	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.44	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	5.77	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.11	„	„

CALNE.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—R. S. FERGUSON, B.A., M.B.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—G. DREWETT, CALNE.

AREA 356 ACRES.

Population—Males	1651	..	(Census 1911)	3538	Estimated (1912)	3547
Females	1887	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	853		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.14		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	16.63	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	16.06	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	118.64	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.28	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	1.12	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	2.25	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.97	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	2.25	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	0.28	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	7.89	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

CHIPPENHAM.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—W. T. BRISCOE, B.A., M.D.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—A. E. ADAMS, A.R.S.I., CHIPPENHAM.

AREA 361 ACRES.

Population—Males	2568	..	(Census 1911)	5332	Estimated (1912)	5357
Females	2764	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	1253		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.25		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	19.78	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	8.58	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	75.47	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.37	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.18	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.68	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.74	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.49	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	4.10	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

DEVIZES.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—G. S. A. WAYLEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—F. G. BILLINGHAM, DEVIZES.

AREA 906 ACRES.

Population—Males	3259	..	(Census 1911)	6739	Estimated (1912)	6762
Females	3480	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	1546		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.36		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	21.59	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	12.12	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	54.79	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.29	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	1.47	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.44	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.92	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.59	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.03	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.35	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

MALMESBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—R. M. MOORE, B.A., M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—C. BOWMAN, MALMESBURY.

AREA 178 ACRES.

Population—Males	1218	..	(Census 1911)	2656	Estimated (1912)	2638
Females	1438	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	"	708		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	3.75		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	21.98	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	11.37	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	34.48	"	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.37	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.75	"	"
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.89	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.37	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	0.75	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.82	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"

MARLBOROUGH.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—T. H. HAYDON, B.A., M.B.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—W. J. HISCOX, A.R.S.I., MARLBOROUGH.

AREA 598 ACRES.

Population—Males	2417	..	(Census 1911)	4401	Estimated (1912)	4452
Females	1984	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	"	851		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	5.17		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	15.48	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	8.76	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	28.98	"	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.67	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.22	"	"
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.22	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.79	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.89	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	0.44	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	0.22	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	3.14	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.12	"	"

MEKSHAM.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—W. INGRAM KEIR, F.R.C.S. (EDIN.).

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—A. E. A. BUSH, MELKSHAM.

AREA 476 ACRES.

Population—Males	1504	..	(Census 1911)	3101	Estimated (1912)	3167
Females	1597	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	741		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.18		
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	13.26	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	9.47	„	„
Infantile Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	23.80	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.63	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	2.20	„	„
Cancer Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.94	„	„
Organic Heart Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.94	„	„
Influenza Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	4.73	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

SALISBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—E. T. FISON, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. (ENG.), D.P.H.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—G. F. FOWLES, A.R.S.I., SALISBURY.

AREA 1,720 ACRES.

Population—Males	9435	..	(Census 1911)	21217	Estimated (1912)	21320
Females	11782	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	4840		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.38		
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	18.43	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	10.36	„	„
Infantile Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	55.97	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.32	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.65	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.18	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.54	„	„
Cancer Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.03	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.50	„	„
Influenza Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.14	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.04	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	4.83	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.09	„	„

SWINDON.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—F. E. STREETEN, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—A. E. BOTTOMLEY, A.R.S.I., SWINDON.

AREA 4,265 ACRES.

Population—Males	25416	..	(Census 1911)	50751	Estimated (1912)	51347
Females	25335	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	11570		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	4.38		
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	23.72	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	10.45	..	..
Infantile Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	76.35	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.95	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.85	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.23	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.55	..	..
Cancer Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.68	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.46	..	..
Influenza Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.05	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.01	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	4.63	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..

TROWBRIDGE.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—JAMES PEARSE, M.D.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—W. H. ALLEN, TROWBRIDGE.

AREA 2,126 ACRES.

Population—Males	5298	..	(Census 1911)	11815	Estimated (1912)	11851
Females	6517	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	3097		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	3.81		
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	18.81	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	12.74	..	..
Infantile Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	67.26	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.25	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.84	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.16	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	2.36	..	..
Cancer Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.94	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.68	..	..
Influenza Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	3.62	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.85	..	..

WARMINSTER.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—A. H. MACDONALD, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—C. H. LAWTON, A.R.S.I., WARMINSTER.

AREA 6,564 ACRES.

Population—Males	2618	..	(Census 1911)	5492	Estimated (1912)	5487
Females	2874	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	1284		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.27		
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	15.30	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate ..	....	..	..	12.02	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	35.71	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.36	of (Estimated) Population	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.18	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.54	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.64	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.45	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	2.73	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	4.55	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.54	„	„

WESTBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—E. TREVOR SHORLAND, M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—C. G. M. CROSS, WESTBURY.

AREA 3,687 ACRES.

Population—Males	1613	..	(Census 1911)	3433	Estimated (1912)	3445
Females	1820	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	864		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	3.97		
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	18.57	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate ..	..	..	..	10.44	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	62.50	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.87	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.29	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.58	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.16	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.16	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.29	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	0.29	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	5.80	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

WILTON.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—CHARLES R. STRATON, F.R.C.S. (EDIN.), L.S.Sc.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—W. W. H. MUSSELWHITE, WILTON.

AREA 1,915 ACRES.

Population—Males	996	..	(Census 1911)	2124	Estimated (1912)	2117
Females	1128	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	553		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	3.84		
Birth-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	14.64	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	13.22	..	..
Infantile Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	96.77	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	0.94	..	of (Estimated) Population.
Phthisis Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	2.36	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.94	..	..
Cancer Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	1.88	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.41	..	..
Influenza Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate .. .. .	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	4.72	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.94	..	..

PART III.
RURAL DISTRICTS.
AMESBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—CHARLES EDDOWES, M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—J. T. HUXHAM, AMESBURY.

AREA 63,454 ACRES.

Population—Males	6763	..	(Census 1911)	11158	Estimated (1912)	11253
Females	4395	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	"	2620		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	4.25		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	25.94	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	10.75	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	82.19	"	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.35	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.35	"	"
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.08	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.06	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.06	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.59	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	0.08	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.04	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—W. J. A. ADYE, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—R. J. GIDDINGS, FROME ROAD, BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

AREA 16,684 ACRES.

Population—Males	2523	..	(Census 1911)	5313	Estimated (1912)	5337
Females	2790	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	"	1217		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	4.36		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	17.23	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	10.30	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	43.47	"	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.93	"	"
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	2.99	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.31	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.49	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	4.87	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.31	"	"

CALNE.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—R. S. FERGUSON, B.A., M.B.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—J. GODFREY, QUEMERFORD, CALNE.

AREA 28,968 ACRES.

Population—Males	2337	..	(Census 1911)	4599	Estimated (1912)	4599
Females	2262	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	"	1127		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	4.08		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	21.96	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	10.65	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	59.40	"	"
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.65	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.86	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.73	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.08	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	0.21	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.08	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"

CHIPPENHAM.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—W. T. BRISCOE, B.A., M.D.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—E. BALCHIN, CHIPPENHAM.

AREA 58,605 ACRES.

Population—Males	8999	..	(Census 1911)	18236	Estimated (1912)	18279
Females	9237	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	4354		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	4.19		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	20.02	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	10.88	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	43.71	"	"
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.05	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.87	"	"
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.05	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.31	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.25	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.80	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.10	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.42	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—J. N. WATSON, M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—A. HITCHCOCK, GREATFIELD, WOOTTON BASSETT.

AREA 46,734 ACRES.

Population—Males	5546	..	(Census 1911)	11002	Estimated (1912)	10969
Females	5456	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	2596		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.23		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	21.60	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	13.49	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	50.63	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.36	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.72	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.73	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.54	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	2.37	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.18	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	5.83	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.82	„	„

DEVIZES.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—G. S. A. WAYLEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—T. V. TRUMPER, DEVIZES.

AREA 61,855 ACRES.

Population—Males	6457	..	(Census 1911)	12854	Estimated (1912)	12838
Females	6397	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	2818		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.56		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	19.08	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	12.61	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	65.30	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.62	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.62	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.07	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	2.02	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.77	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	0.85	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	7.63	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

HIGHWORTH.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—F. E. STREETEN, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—E. HODDINOTT, A.R.S.I., STRATTON ST. MARGARET.

AREA 49,721 ACRES.

Population—Males	7815	..	(Census 1911)	15139	Estimated (1912)	15227
Females	7324	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	3428		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	4.31		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	22.91	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	11.16	..	..
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	68.76	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.45	.. of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.85	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.13	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.57	..	..
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.78	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.24	..	..
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.10	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..

MALMESBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—R. M. MOORE, B.A., M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—C. BOWMAN, MALMESBURY.

AREA 58,356 ACRES.

Population—Males	4730	..	(Census 1911)	9361	Estimated (1912)	9315
Females	4631	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	2214		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	4.22		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	19.21	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	9.87	..	..
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	22.34	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.10	.. of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.53	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.10	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.85	..	..
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.28	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.28	..	..
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	5.68	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..

MARLBOROUGH.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—W. B. MAURICE, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—JOHN HUNTLEY, OVERTON.

AREA 43,795 ACRES.

Population—Males	2332	..	(Census 1911)	4496	Estimated (1912)	4489
Females	2164	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	1045		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	4.30		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	22.05	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	12.47	..	..
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	80.80	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.89	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.66	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.22	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.33	..	..
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.66	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	2.89	..	..
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.22	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	0.22	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	4.67	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.66	..	..

MELKSHAM.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—W. I. KEIR, F.R.C.S. (EDIN.).

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—F. U. GREENHILL, MELKSHAM.

AREA 13,792 ACRES.

Population—Males	2430	..	(Census 1911)	4979	Estimated (1912)	5029
Females	2549	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	1146		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	4.33		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	18.89	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	11.13	..	..
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	52.63	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.19	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.19	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.99	..	..
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.59	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.98	..	..
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.16	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..

MERE.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—B. POPE BARTLETT, M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—J. MCKENZIE, A.R.S.I., MERE.

AREA 32,309 ACRES.

Population—Males	2534	..	(Census 1911)	5173	Estimated (1912)	5169
Females	2639	..	..	
Inhabited houses	..	..	..	1274		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	4.06		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	17.60	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	12.38	..	..
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	32.96	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.19	..	of (Estimated) Population.
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.38	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.19	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.35	..	..
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.54	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	2.51	..	..
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.19	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	0.19	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	3.28	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.54	..	..

PEWSEY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—E. W. RAYMENT, M.B., B.Sc. (PUBLIC HEALTH).

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—F. W. FERRIS, WOODBOROUGH.

AREA 75,218 ACRES.

Population—Males	7415	..	Census 1911)	13,303	Estimated (1912)	13503
Females	5888	..	..	
Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	2914		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	4.56		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	21.25	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett-Death-rate	..	..	..	12.66	..	..
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	94.07	..	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.51	..	of (Estimated) Population.
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.81	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.29	..	..
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.62	..	..
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.96	..	..
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	2.44	..	..
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.14	..	..
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	....	..	..	5.77	..	..
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.07	..	..

RAMSBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—G. TREW CATTELL, M.D., D.P.H.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—W. STRICKLAND, A.R.S.I., HUNGERFORD.

AREA 51,614 ACRES.

Population—Males	3648	..	(Census 1911)	7109	Estimated (1912)	7114
Females	3461	..	„	1765		
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.02		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	22.77	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	13.91	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	80.24	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.56	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.14	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.12	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	2.10	„	„
Organic Heart Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.68	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.14	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	8.29	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

SALISBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—J. E. GORDON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—A. METHERILL, A.R.S.I., SALISBURY.

AREA 56,990 ACRES.

Population—Males	5085	..	(Census 1911)	10178	Estimated (1912)	10216
Females	5093	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	2470		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.12		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	21.14	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	12.13	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	64.81	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.68	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.68	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.19	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.85	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.88	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.95	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.29	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	5.57	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

TISBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—C. A. ENSOR, M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—E. P. DAVIES, A.R.S.I., TISBURY.

AREA 43,561 ACRES.

Population—Males	3861	..	(Census 1911)	7803	Estimated (1912)	7812
Females	3942	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	1893		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	4.12		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	19.71	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	10.88	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	38.96	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.12	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	1.15	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.12	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.28	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.64	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.66	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	0.25	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	5.50	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„

WARMINSTER.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—A. H. MACDONALD, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—R. STRONG, WARMINSTER.

AREA 51,896 ACRES.

Population—Males	2990	..	(Census 1911)	5957	Estimated (1912)	5930
Females	2967	..	„			
Inhabited houses	..	..	„	1586		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	„	3.75		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	15.85	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	13.99	„	„
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	21.27	„	Births
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.16	„ of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.16	„	„
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.33	„	„
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	2.35	„	„
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.00	„	„
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.84	„	„
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	„	„
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	6.38	„	„
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.51	„	„

WESTBURY AND WHORWELLSDOWN.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—E. TREVOR SHORLAND, M.R.C.S.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—W. H. STANLEY, TROWBRIDGE.

AREA 27,846 ACRES.

Population—Males	3271	..	(Census 1911)	6610	Estimated (1912)	6631
Females	3339	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	"	1685		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	3.92		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	21.56	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	12.66	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	76.92	"	"
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.15	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.45	"	"
Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.15	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.50	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	0.45	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.65	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	0.15	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	8.14	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"

WILTON.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—CHARLES R. STRATON, F.R.C.S. (EDIN.), L.S.Sc.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—R. A. SKELTON, A.R.S.I., BEMERTON.

AREA 54,290 ACRES.

Population—Males	4155	..	(Census 1911)	8079	Estimated (1912)	8144
Females	3924	..	"			
Inhabited houses	..	..	"	1915		
Average number of persons per house	..	..	"	4.21		
Birth-rate	..	..	..	23.57	per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.	
Nett Death-rate	..	..	..	11.54	"	"
Infantile Death-rate	..	..	..	72.91	"	"
Zymotic Death-rate	..	..	..	0.12	of (Estimated) Population.	
Phthisis Death-rate	..	..	..	0.85	"	"
Other Tuberculosis Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	0.85	"	"
Cancer Death-rate	..	..	..	1.35	"	"
Organic Heart Disease Death-rate	..	..	..	1.10	"	"
Influenza Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Fever Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Erysipelas Death-rate	..	..	..	Nil	"	"
Other Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	5.89	"	"
Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate	..	..	..	1.35	"	"

TETBURY (Wilts Portion).

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—MARTIN ASHLEY, M.B., D.P.H.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES—T. V. H. DAVISON, TETBURY.

AREA 3,271 ACRES.

<i>Population—Males</i>	168	..	(Census 1911)	373	<i>Estimated (1912)</i>	375
<i>Females</i>	205	..	..	
<i>Inhabited houses</i>	..	..	..	84		
<i>Average number of persons per house</i>	..	..	..	4.44		
<i>Birth-rate</i>	..	..	..	16.00	<i>per 1000 of (Estimated) Population.</i>	
<i>Nett Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	18.66	..	..
<i>Infantile Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	33.33	..	<i>Births</i>
<i>Zymotic Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	<i>of (Estimated) Population.</i>	
<i>Phthisis Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
<i>Other Tubercular Diseases Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
<i>Respiratory Diseases Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
<i>Cancer Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	2.66	..	..
<i>Organic Heart Disease Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
<i>Influenza Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
<i>Puerperal Fever Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
<i>Erysipelas Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
<i>Other Defined Diseases Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	15.99	..	..
<i>Ill Defined Diseases Death-rate</i>	..	..	..	Nil	..	..

TABLE 1 A.

Table showing Estimated Population, Birth-Rate, Death-Rate and number of Deaths in Public Institutions, &c., in the Urban Districts of the County of Wilts in the year 1912.

Urban Districts of the County of Wilts.	Population estimated to Middle of Year	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		Transferable Deaths.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	NETT.		No.	Rate.	Non-resi- dents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			No.	Rate.					No.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	No.	Rate.
Bradford-on-Avon ..	4500	87	87	19.33	46	10.22	..	9	4	45.97	55	12.22
Calne	3547	60	59	16.63	64	18.04	8	1	7	118.64	57	16.06
Chippenham ..	5357	106	106	19.78	49	9.14	9	6	8	75.47	46	8.58
Devizes	6762	147	146	21.59	105	15.52	27	4	11	54.79	82	12.12
Malmesbury ..	2638	55	58	21.98	29	10.99	3	4	2	34.48	30	11.37
Marlborough ..	4452	69	69	15.48	38	8.53	5	6	2	28.98	39	8.76
Melksham	3167	42	42	13.26	36	11.36	9	3	1	23.80	30	9.47
Salisbury	21320	397	393	18.43	283	13.27	75	13	22	55.97	221	10.36
Swindon	51347	1209	1218	23.72	505	9.83	12	44	93	76.85	537	10.45
Trowbridge	11851	222	223	18.81	130	10.96	1	22	15	67.26	151	12.74
Warminster	5487	84	84	15.30	76	13.85	11	1	3	35.71	66	12.02
Westbury	3445	66	64	18.57	40	11.61	5	1	4	62.50	36	10.44
Wilton	2117	30	31	14.64	22	10.39	..	6	3	96.77	28	13.22
TOTAL	125990	2574	2580	20.47	1423	11.29	165	120	175	67.82	1378	10.93

TABLE 1 B.

Table showing Estimated Population, Birth-Rate, Death-Rate, and number of Deaths in Public Institutions, &c., in the Rural Districts of the County of Wilts, in the year 1912.

Rural Districts of the County of Wilts.	Population estimated to Middle of Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		Transferable Deaths.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	NETT.		No.	Rate.	Non-resi- dents registered in the District.	Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			No.	Rate.					No.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	No.	Rate
Amesbury	11253	292	292	25·94	115	10·21	10	16	24	82·19	121	10·75
Bradford-on-Avon ..	5337	91	92	17·23	66	12·36	14	3	4	43·47	55	10·30
Calne	4599	101	101	21·96	41	8·91	..	8	6	59·40	49	10·65
Chippenham	18279	366	366	20·02	183	10·01	6	22	16	43·71	199	10·88
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett }	10969	237	237	21·60	138	12·58	1	11	12	50·63	148	13·49
Devizes	12838	243	245	19·08	205	15·96	72	29	16	65·30	162	12·61
Highworth	15227	357	349	22·91	185	12·14	29	14	24	68·76	170	11·16
Malmesbury	9315	181	179	19·21	86	9·23	3	9	4	22·34	92	9·87
Marlborough	4489	99	99	22·05	67	14·92	16	5	8	80·80	56	12·47
Melksham	5029	96	95	18·89	74	14·71	25	7	5	52·63	56	11·13
Mere	5169	91	91	17·60	63	12·18	..	1	3	32·96	64	12·38
Pewsey	13503	287	287	21·25	161	11·92	..	10	27	94·07	171	12·66
Ramsbury	7114	161	162	22·77	82	11·52	1	18	13	80·24	99	13·91
Salisbury	10216	216	216	21·14	107	10·47	..	17	14	64·81	124	12·13
Tisbury	7812	154	154	19·71	81	10·36	1	5	6	38·96	85	10·88
Warminster	5930	94	94	15·85	70	11·80	..	13	2	21·27	83	13·99
Westbury and Whorwellsdown }	6631	136	143	21·56	75	11·31	..	9	11	76·92	84	12·66
Wilton	8144	192	192	23·57	89	10·92	..	5	14	72·91	94	11·54
Tetbury (Wilts portion)	375	6	6	16·00	9	24·00	2	..	2	33·33	7	18·66
TOTAL	162229	3400	3400	20·95	1897	11·69	180	202	211	62·05	1919	11·82

TABLE 2 A.—Table of New Cases of Infectious Disease coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1912, in the Urban Districts of the County of Wilts, classified according to Diseases and Localities; showing also the number of cases sent to Hospital and the total number of Deaths from such Diseases; also the Deaths which occurred in Hospital.

DISTRICT.			Smallpox	Cholera	Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhus Fever	Enteric Fever	Relapsing Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Plague	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Smallpox	Cholera	Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhus Fever	Enteric Fever	Relapsing Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Plague	Pulmonary Tuberculosis
Bradford-on-Avon	Total cases reported ..	25	2	1	4	18	Cases treated in hospital ..	4	1	..	3
	Total deaths ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Calne	Total cases reported ..	11	2	3	6	Cases treated in hospital ..	3	3
	Total deaths ..	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chippenham	Total cases reported ..	9	2	..	1	6	Cases treated in hospital ..	2	1	..	1
	Total deaths ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Devizes	Total cases reported ..	41	11	3	14	13	Cases treated in hospital ..	25	11	..	14
	Total deaths ..	11	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	Deaths in hospital ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malmesbury	Total cases reported ..	8	1	2	2	Cases treated in hospital ..	—
	Total deaths ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	Total cases reported ..	12	1	..	6	5	Cases treated in hospital ..	7	1	..	6
	Total deaths ..	2	..	..	..	*1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Melksham	Total cases reported ..	5	2	3	Cases treated in hospital ..	—
	Total deaths ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salisbury	Total cases reported ..	92	12	9	23	..	2	1	..	45	Cases treated in hospital ..	18	3	3	10	..	2
	Total deaths ..	17	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	14	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swindon	Total cases reported ..	582	106	36	206	..	2	1	..	231	Cases treated in hospital ..	302	100	3	198	..	1
	Total deaths ..	51	..	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	44	Deaths in hospital ..	5	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Trowbridge	Total cases reported ..	90	7	1	60	22	Cases treated in hospital ..	53	7	..	46
	Total deaths ..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Warminster	Total cases reported ..	65	9	..	50	6	Cases treated in hospital ..	45	1	..	44
	Total deaths ..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Deaths in hospital ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westbury	Total cases reported ..	14	5	4	5	Cases treated in hospital ..	5	5
	Total deaths ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wilton	Total cases reported ..	12	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	Cases treated in hospital ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Total deaths ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	Deaths in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	Total cases reported ..	963	156	63	367	..	4	2	..	371	Cases treated in hospital ..	465	130	6	325	..	3	1
	Total deaths ..	112	..	..	7	4	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	97	Deaths in hospital ..	7	..	..	5	..	2	..	..	..	..	..

* This case does not appear to have been notified according to the return of the Medical Officer of Health.

* This case does not appear to have been notified according to the return of the Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE 2 B.—Table of New Cases of Infectious Disease coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1912, in the Rural Districts of the County of Wilts, classified according to Diseases and Localities; showing also the number of cases sent to Hospital and the total number of Deaths from such Diseases; also the Deaths which occurred in Hospital.

DISTRICT.			Smallpox	Cholera	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhus Fever	Enteric Fever	Relapsing Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Polio-myelitis	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Smallpox	Cholera	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhus Fever	Enteric Fever	Relapsing Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Polio-myelitis	Pulmonary Tuberculosis
Amesbury	Total cases reported ..	41	..	..	1	3	16	..	1	..	..	2	..	18	Cases treated in hospital ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bradford-on-Avon	Total cases reported ..	23	..	..	..	3	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	Cases treated in hospital ..	10	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Calne	Total cases reported ..	21	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	Cases treated in hospital ..	15	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chippenham	Total cases reported ..	65	..	..	..	7	24	..	1	..	..	..	..	33	Cases treated in hospital ..	13	..	..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett	Total cases reported ..	37	..	..	1	2	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	Cases treated in hospital ..	19	..	..	1	..	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Devizes	Total cases reported ..	68	..	..	36	6	11	..	1	..	..	1	..	13	Cases treated in hospital ..	40	..	..	34	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	9	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	Deaths in hospital	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Highworth	Total cases reported ..	115	..	..	8	7	53	..	2	..	..	..	..	45	Cases treated in hospital ..	53	..	..	6	..	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	14	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	Deaths in hospital	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malmesbury	Total cases reported ..	53	..	..	2	5	23	..	1	..	..	1	1	20	Cases treated in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	Total cases reported ..	29	..	..	..	3	11	..	..	..	..	3	..	12	Cases treated in hospital ..	11	..	..	..	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Melksham	Total cases reported ..	18	..	..	8	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	Cases treated in hospital ..	8	..	..	7	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mere	Total cases reported ..	22	..	..	5	1	11	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	Cases treated in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	4	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pewsey	Total cases reported ..	30	..	..	6	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	Cases treated in hospital ..	*5	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ramsbury	Total cases reported ..	20	..	..	12	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	Cases treated in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salisbury	Total cases reported ..	45	..	..	13	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	Cases treated in hospital ..	10	..	..	6	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tisbury	Total cases reported ..	45	..	..	5	1	17	..	..	..	..	2	..	20	Cases treated in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	10	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Warminster	Total cases reported ..	32	..	..	8	3	11	..	..	..	..	1	..	9	Cases treated in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westbury & Whorwellsdown	Total cases reported ..	47	..	..	7	9	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	Cases treated in hospital ..	21	..	..	7	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wilton	Total cases reported ..	69	..	..	..	1	44	..	..	..	..	1	..	23	Cases treated in hospital ..	21	..	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tetbury	Total cases reported ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cases treated in hospital ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Deaths in hospital .. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	Total cases reported ..	780	..	..	112	57	325	..	6	..	..	13	1	266	Cases treated in hospital ..	227	..	..	62	..	164	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	Total deaths	116	..	..	5	2	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	104	Deaths in hospital	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* These cases were isolated at Devizes Hospital.

TABLE 3 A.—Table of Deaths during the Year 1912, in the Urban Districts of the County of Wilts, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.																																								
	Total at all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping-Cough.	Diphtheria and Croup	Influenza.	Erysipelas.	Poliomyelitis.	Meningitis.	Organic Heart Disease.	Phthisis (Pulmon- ary Tuberculosis).	Tuberculous Meningitis.	Other Tuberculous diseases.	Rheumatic Fever.	Cancer, Malignant disease.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia (all forms).	Other diseases of Respiratory organs	Diarrhea and Enteritis.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis.	Alcoholism.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	Nephritis and Bright's Disease.	Puerperal Fever.	Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Prema- ture Birth.	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	Suicides.	Other Defined Diseases.	Diseases ill-defined or unknown.	All causes.
Bradford-on-Avon	55	4	2	..	3	13	33	2	6	2	3	7	2	2	3	2	3	..	18	5	55
Calne	57	7	8	7	35	1	8	4	7	5	2	1	1	1	1	..	1	3	22	..	57
Chippenham	46	8	1	..	1	..	4	6	26	1	8	2	1	4	8	1	1	3	17	..	46	
Devizes	82	11	4	2	4	3	10	14	34	1	1	7	10	3	4	5	6	2	..	1	1	1	5	..	1	4	2	..	28	..	82
Malmesbury	29	2	1	..	3	1	3	3	16	2	2	1	4	..	1	1	2	1	1	14	..	29
Marlborough	39	2	..	3	2	2	8	6	16	3	1	2	1	1	4	1	7	1	..	2	2	..	1	1	2	..	5	5	39
Melksham	30	1	..	2	1	1	4	7	14	3	2	3	5	2	2	..	13	..	30	
Salisbury	221	22	5	5	5	9	25	67	83	1	..	3	1	3	1	..	1	32	14	2	2	1	22	18	13	2	2	3	..	4	13	10	7	..	64	2	221
Swindon	537	93	26	19	26	22	67	128	156	9	1	9	5	3	2	75	44	6	6	1	35	30	48	2	25	3	..	1	17	1	..	44	9	4	157	..	537
Trowbridge	151	15	6	1	2	2	14	32	79	20	10	1	1	1	23	19	6	3	3	1	2	..	2	11	4	2	20	22	151
Warminster	66	3	1	3	3	1	2	15	38	1	15	1	3	8	8	1	..	1	2	4	1	1	..	17	3	66
Westbury	36	4	..	1	1	2	2	8	18	1	..	1	1	..	1	4	..	1	4	2	2	1	..	1	3	2	1	..	11	..	36
Wilton	28	3	1	1	1	3	3	4	12	2	1	3	5	4	2	2	1	1	..	5	2	28
TOTAL	1377	175	45	37	51	46	153	310	560	1	..	17	2	11	7	9	4	..	6	185	97	18	9	3	122	114	88	13	35	12	1	13	50	1	5	84	33	7	391	39	1377

TABLE 3 B.—Table of Deaths during the Year 1912, in the Rural Districts of the County of Wilts, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.																																								
	Total at all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping-Cough.	Diphtheria and Group	Influenza.	Erysipelas.	Poliomyelitis.	Meningitis.	Organic Heart Disease.	Phthisis (Pulmon- ary Tuberculosis).	Tuberculous Meningitis.	Other Tuberculous diseases.	Rheumatic Fever.	Cancer, Malignant disease.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia (all forms).	Other diseases of Respiratory organs	Diarrhoea and Enteritis.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis.	Alcoholism.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	Nephritis and Bright's Disease.	Puerperal Fever.	Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Prena- ture Birth.	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	Suicides.	Other Defined Diseases.	Diseases ill-defined or unknown.	All causes.
Amesbury	121	24	2	3	1	2	16	23	50	3	1	2	18	4	..	1	..	12	1	10	1	1	1	..	2	..	1	2	6	1	..	54	..	121
Bradford-on-Avon	69	4	2	1	1	4	10	11	36	1	8	5	7	9	5	2	1	2	3	3	16	7	69
Calne	49	6	..	2	2	..	3	7	29	5	3	..	8	1	2	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	3	2	..	19	..	49	
Chippenham	199	16	4	2	5	7	29	46	90	2	33	16	1	23	14	10	..	1	2	..	4	3	..	2	10	7	1	70	..	199
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett	149	15	1	3	3	4	12	37	74	2	3	26	8	17	11	7	1	4	1	2	2	5	..	1	12	9	1	28	9	149
Devizes	162	16	6	3	6	3	15	30	83	1	..	6	1	11	8	1	10	9	15	2	..	1	..	1	8	..	2	5	4	..	77	..	162
Highworth	170	24	7	3	4	7	15	35	75	1	1	1	19	13	..	2	..	12	9	12	3	5	1	4	..	2	9	5	1	70	..	170
Malmesbury	92	3	1	1	3	4	7	22	51	12	5	1	12	4	1	3	1	1	2	2	3	1	44	..	92
Marlborough	56	8	2	1	3	10	32	2	..	1	1	13	3	..	1	..	3	2	4	..	2	1	1	..	3	..	1	15	3	56
Melksham	56	5	3	4	3	11	30	1	10	1	8	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	25	..	56
Mere	59	3	..	1	4	15	36	1	1	1	13	2	..	1	..	8	4	2	1	..	1	2	2	1	11	8	59
Pewsey	171	27	7	4	7	1	17	33	75	4	..	2	2	33	11	1	3	..	13	18	4	..	3	3	5	..	2	9	4	2	51	1	171
Ramsbury	100	13	3	2	4	1	2	18	57	3	..	1	12	1	15	3	4	1	1	1	3	9	3	..	43	..	100
Salisbury	124	14	1	2	3	2	16	28	58	2	..	3	1	20	7	2	9	12	6	1	5	1	1	..	5	..	2	7	2	..	38	..	124
Tisbury	85	6	..	1	2	1	10	13	52	1	2	13	9	1	5	5	4	1	1	1	..	1	4	2	..	34	1	85
Warminster	82	2	2	2	4	2	4	21	45	1	2	11	1	1	1	..	6	12	1	1	..	1	1	..	2	2	4	..	26	9	82
Westbury & Whorwellsdown	84	11	1	4	14	10	44	1	11	3	..	1	1	3	10	1	1	4	..	1	6	7	..	34	..	84
Wilton	94	14	1	3	2	1	11	16	46	1	9	7	1	11	2	5	6	..	1	9	3	2	26	11	94
Tetbury (Wilts Portion)	7	2	3	..	2	1	1	1	..	1	2	1	..	7	
TOTAL	1929	213	38	33	52	48	194	386	965	2	2	21	5	14	2	..	13	277	104	8	13	2	183	129	94	18	24	13	4	17	50	3	20	103	63	14	682	49	1929

Nature of Nuisances met with in the Urban Districts in the County of Wilts during the Year 1912, and Summary of Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances Department.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics.	Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.				Houses.				Overcrowding.	House Drains.				Water Closets.				Privies and Ashpits.				Scavenging.				Smoke Nuisances.	Offensive Trades.				Water Supply.				DAIRIES & COWSHEDS ORDERS.												Slaughter Houses.	Factories, Workshops, and Bakehouses.	Lodging Houses.	Food.	Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	Accumulation of Offensive Rubbish.	Legal Proceedings.				Clerical Work.																					
	Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk, Milk Sellers.				Premises with Well Water Supply.					Dairymen, & Cowkeepers & Purveyors of Milk, (Butter & Cheese Makers).	No. Registered or Licensed.	No. Regularly Inspected.	No. Cleansed and Repaired.	No. under Inspection.	No. Certified for Lime-washing by Inspector.	No. of Insanitary Conditions dealt with as Nuisances.	No. employing Young Persons, &c. reported to Medical Officer of Health.	No. on Register.	No. Regularly Inspected.	No. Cleansed and Repaired.	No. of Seizures as unfit for Human Consumption.	No. of Cases of Removal on Notice.	No. of Removals.	No. taken.	No. of Convictions obtained.		No. of Cases withdrawn or Dismissed.	No. of Statutory Notices Served.	No. of Statutory Notices complied with.	No. of Statutory Notices Outstanding.	No. of Informal Notices Served.	No. of Informal Notices Complied with.	No. of Informal Notices Outstanding.																																													
	No. of Cases inquired into.	No. of Houses Disinfected and Cleansed.	No. of Patients removed to Hospital.	Lots of Bedding, Clothing, &c., Disinfected or Destroyed.	Cases of Illegal Exposure reported.	No. erected (if information obtainable).	No. made fit for Habitation.	No. closed as unfit for Habitation.																										No. cleansed and Lime-washed.	No. of Cases abated.	No. Laid or Relaid.	No. Cleansed, Trapped, and Ventilated	No. of Defective Waste Pipes rectified.	No. of Insanitary Lavatories, Sinks, and Urinals rectified.	No. of Dumbwells rectified.	No. of additional W.C.'s provided.	No. Repaired, Ventilated, and supplied with Flush Cisterns.	No. of W.C.'s without Flush Cisterns in district.	No. of W.C.'s with Flush Cisterns in district.	No. of additional Privies and Ashpits provided.	No. converted to W.C.'s or Slop Closets.							No. converted to Pail-Closets.	No. Repaired.	No. of Privies in district.	No. of Pail Closets in district.	Total No. of Houses from which Refuse removable by the Authority.	Total No. of Privies and Ashpits Cleansed.	Total No. of Portable Receptacles Cleansed.	Total No. of Loads of Ashes and Excrement Removed.	Total No. of Loads of Ashes and Refuse Removed.	No. of New Dust Receptacles provided.	No. under Observation.	No. Abated.	No. Established.	No. of Inspections.	No. Improperly Conducted.	No. of Wells sunk.	No. of Wells Cleansed and Repaired.	No. of Wells Closed as Polluted.	No. of Houses supplied from Waterworks (during year).	No. of Samples taken for Analysis.	No. of Samples Condemned.	No. in District.	No. Registered.	No. of Inspections of Premises.	No. of Inspections during Milking Time.	No. of Premises requiring White-washing, Cleansing, &c.
Bradford-on-Avon	13	13	5	13	..	1	..	13	1	5	7	10	..	8	..	7	16	4	6	1	1167	1871	1	1	4	16	16	34	1	5	5	3	3	6	6	1	53	1	1	1	..	2	3	35	27	8	60	63	7
Calne	..	6	4	3	3	2	2	10	2	2	10	3	150	336	17	..	18	51	475	70	370	1	8	2	2	5	9	9	7	9	9	..	5	1	1	1	167	2	1	1	1	1	1	1		
Chippenham	..	2	2	2	..	8	25	1	..	4	26	12	2	16	7	1250	1	8	9	9	4	..	4	4	1	1	10	10	10	33	2	2	..	2	2	2	..	1	3	6	6	..	68	60	8
Devizes	23	27	15	..	6	110	2	2	8	3	24	1	1	..	5	5	20	5	40	8	8	..	68	2	2	1	1	..	1	1	..	204	160	44				
Malmesbury	..	3	3	..	3	1	590	875	659	26	24	4	4	15	9	2	2	1	1	4	15	3	3	3	13	2	1	1	1	4	7	7	..
Marlborough	..	7	8	7	8	..	1	2	5	16	18	30	17	1	870	3	3	3	3	4	5	5	..	6	6	..	60	2	1	5	4	1	5	5	..				
Melksham	..	3	3	4	1	..	3	1	18	3	1	3	..	6	2	33	688	..	2	18	11	752	2	..	7	1898	..	5	7	9	9	36	23	2	9	36	5	5	5	26	2	2	2	..	87	87	..							
Salisbury	..	30	31	12	12	9	9	126	3	95	103	33	35	..	19	90	3	3	36	36	152	..	12	12	36	15	15	15	252	1	53	..	1	1	1	1	10	8	3	3	..	91	80	11			
Swindon	..	351	582	302	594	..	36	305	2	187	221	2	3	3	1	62	25	8	12500	14560	12500	12	..	76	76	143	..	76	76	3	..	9	25	25	25	331	53	31	..	3	3	3	16	14	57	1	1	..	54	51	3	447	407	40
Trowbridge	..	62	50	48	83	..	4	5	25	36	7	37	95	4	19	..	3	134	2	5	2960	3704	..	1	1	1	48	7	41	41	196	62	14	14	4	4	4	1	12	12	12	111	12	16	..	1	1	1	6	2	34	1	..	1	27	24	3	313	292	21		
Warminster	..	50	..	44	1	..	3	24	11	6	1	6	3	2	4	6	2	..	6	3	..	24	24	60	15	6	6	7	7	2	41	1	1	1	1	..	2	2	..	26	26	..				
Westbury	..	6	6	5	1	..	6	..	5	4	..	11	305	..	1	1	..	283	228	5	13	13	13	2	3	3	2	2	4	4	4	27	3	25	20	5						
Wilton	..	5	2	2	5	1	29	..	19	23	6	15	..	9	13	4	528	..	7	11	13	548	540	..	3	1	..	547	8	..	6	6	21	10	6	6	2	2	1	1	5	1	..	6	21	2	2	2	22	4	12	8	2	5	29	21	8	31	31	..
TOTAL	538	727	455	733	..	71	73	68	630	33	424	477	48	83	23	102	344	187	1857	..	16	23	6	363	317	21052	75	..	31	24868	1	14	4	2	48	3	3	13755	53	27	245	244	594	122	130	128	13	10	50	2	6	1	..	34	131	112	112	86	1048	85	115	13	13	10	23	32	294	3	1	1	166	142	24	1365	1228	137

Nature of Nuisances met with in the Rural Districts in the County of Wilts during the Year 1912, and Summary of Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances Department.

[illegible]

RAINFALL FOR WILTSHIRE, YEAR 1912.

OBSERVERS & STATIONS.	Height above sea level.		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals for the Year 1912.
H. J. SOUTHWELL, Esq., Mechanics' Institute, Swindon.	378 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	3·89 1·02 19	1·94 0·39 19	4·51 0·61 24	0·07 0·05 3	1·83 0·49 13	3·61 0·67 21	2·96 0·39 19	5·03 0·54 25	1·29 0·76 7	3·26 0·55 16	2·92 0·75 15	3·93 0·75 25	34·61 inches 206 days
E. W. KNATCHBULL, Esq., Winsley Manor, Near Bradford-on-Avon.	400 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	4·13 0·91 19	2·20 0·41 21	5·29 0·95 22	0·18 0·15 3	1·61 0·63 11	3·25 0·49 21	2·71 0·97 15	5·66 1·38 24	0·98 0·55 5	4·49 1·01 16	2·44 0·80 15	5·31 0·70 25	38·25 inches 197 days
J. IRELAND BOWES, Esq., Wilts County Asylum, Devizes.	385 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	3·65 0·55 18	2·16 0·53 15	4·55 0·81 22	0·03 0·03 1	1·55 0·39 8	3·45 0·46 17	2·24 0·30 10	4·68 0·64 22	1·48 1·06 5	3·85 1·05 16	1·86 0·45 9	4·47 0·78 24	33·97 inches 167 days
MEDDOWS TAYLOR, Esq., Marlborough College.	420 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	4·44 1·05 21	2·89 0·39 19	5·52 0·89 23	0·09 0·09 3	1·53 0·54 11	4·12 0·52 20	2·58 0·37 17	6·00 0·69 24	1·69 1·06 7	3·96 0·74 17	2·09 0·63 12	5·41 0·81 25	40·32 inches 199 days
T. CHALLIS, Esq., Wilton House, Near Salisbury.	180 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	6·21 1·84 23	3·32 0·57 25	5·92 1·04 23	0·115 0·05 4	1·17 0·43 14	5·355 1·01 25	2·59 0·42 18	7·38 0·90 27	2·58 1·58 8	5·015 1·07 20	2·605 0·75 22	5·67 0·66 25	47·93 inches 234 days
JAMES BRISTOL, Esq., The Academy, Tisbury.	380 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	4·81 0·70 20	2·86 0·42 20	5·20 0·76 23	0·17 0·13 4	1·15 0·51 10	4·42 0·61 18	2·97 0·39 17	7·33 0·81 25	2·22 1·51 5	4·65 0·76 17	2·71 0·72 16	6·26 0·66 25	44·75 inches 200 days
F. J. WARDALE, Esq., Shrewton.	322 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	5·35 1·75 22	2·43 0·35 23	4·12 0·70 24	0·18 0·11 4	1·51 0·56 13	3·35 0·41 23	2·41 0·39 20	5·75 0·62 27	1·60 0·81 6	4·14 0·72 17	1·83 0·63 16	4·60 0·62 23	37·27 inches 218 days
H. J. HAMP, Esq., Wroughton Water Works, Swindon.	450 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	3·57 0·88 17	2·12 0·33 18	4·875 0·73 22	0·00 0·00 0	1·86 0·49 11	3·64 0·54 21	2·66 0·43 16	5·375 0·49 26	1·365 0·74 8	3·29 0·64 14	2·11 0·74 9	3·975 0·61 26	34·84 inches 188 days
W. STRUGNELL, Esq., F.R.H.S., Rood Ashton, Near Trowbridge.	250 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	5·19 1·13 23	2·49 0·44 21	5·90 0·90 26	0·23 0·13 7	1·82 0·50 10	4·04 0·63 23	3·17 0·51 17	8·03 2·64 29	1·68 0·89 11	4·97 1·02 24	2·20 0·51 18	5·44 0·80 27	45·16 inches 236 days
STILES E. JEFFERYS, Esq., Rye Hill, Hill Deverill, Near Warminster.	466 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	5·43 1·29 24	3·10 0·52 25	5·88 0·98 24	0·18 0·11 5	1·75 0·74 11	5·13 0·59 26	3·78 0·88 20	6·67 0·79 24	1·84 1·18 9	5·07 1·05 25	2·13 0·58 18	6·50 0·73 25	47·46 inches 236 days
TROWBRIDGE WATER CO., Biss Bottom, Upton Scudamore, Near Warminster.	311 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	4·73 0·78 22	2·82 0·56 19	5·55 0·82 22	0·09 0·05 2	1·70 0·59 12	4·58 0·58 20	2·69 0·67 16	7·42 1·39 22	1·28 1·00 5	5·32 1·03 16	1·98 0·60 12	6·13 0·78 25	44·29 inches 193 days
THOMAS H. BAKER, Esq., 91, Brown Street, Salisbury.	156 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	4·70 0·98 23	2·65 0·41 23	4·91 0·78 24	0·11 0·06 3	1·27 0·35 15	5·02 0·71 24	1·95 0·41 20	7·01 0·71 28	2·45 1·45 8	3·99 0·73 19	2·04 0·62 14	4·54 0·48 26	40·64 inches 227 days
Rev. E. WELLS, M.A., Dean Rectory, Salisbury.	149 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	4·30 1·41 19	2·68 0·44 20	4·49 0·46 25	0·10 0·07 2	1·76 0·91 10	5·64 0·93 23	2·35 0·45 15	7·21 0·75 27	2·48 1·73 5	3·52 0·81 15	1·73 0·53 13	4·25 0·55 22	40·51 inches 196 days
EDWARD H. MILES, Esq., Estate Office, East Knoyle.	590 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	5·46 1·32 21	3·02 0·47 23	5·36 0·71 25	0·23 0·15 5	1·43 0·66 12	5·28 0·62 23	3·86 1·02 21	7·10 0·82 27	1·95 1·20 5	4·77 0·92 18	2·95 0·57 15	6·07 0·82 24	46·58 inches 219 days
S. W. TUCKER, Esq., Longford Castle Gardens, Salisbury.	140 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	4·01 0·68 19	2·72 0·40 22	5·12 0·80 25	0·05 0·05 1	1·39 0·59 13	5·11 0·60 21	2·44 0·46 18	6·91 0·80 26	2·47 1·63 5	3·73 0·70 15	2·22 0·78 12	4·66 0·65 21	40·83 inches 198 days
H. T. COOKSON, Esq., Sturford Mead.	459 feet	Amount collected in inches .. Greatest fall in one day in inches .. Number of days it fell ..	5·61 1·36 21	3·17 0·63 23	6·28 0·72 24	0·10 0·07 3	2·03 0·79 11	4·73 0·57 25	3·54 0·38 21	6·94 0·79 28	1·69 1·12 6	4·99 1·12 15	1·91 0·51 17	6·14 0·69 26	47·13 inches 220 days
		Mean amount collected in inches .. Mean number of days it fell ..	4·71 20·68	2·66 21·00	5·21 23·62	0·12 3·12	1·58 11·56	4·42 21·93	2·80 17·50	6·53 25·68	1·81 6·56	4·31 17·50	2·13 14·56	5·21 24·62	41·49 inches 208·33 days

Mean Rainfall for the County of Wilts ... 41·49 inches
Mean Number of Days upon which rain fell ... 208·33 days

